

Cornelius Rufus Nelson
25 Bowdoin Street
Fleet Street

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XX.—NEW SERIES, No. 750.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1860.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5!
STAMPED.... 6s.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver an **ORATION** in **EXETER HALL** on **THURSDAY**, March 22nd, and on **THURSDAY**, March 29th. Doors open at Seven o'clock p.m. Chair taken at Eight.

Tickets for Reserved and Numbered Seats, 2s. 6d.; Platform or Central Seats, 1s.; Body of the Hall, 6d. To be had at 337, Strand.

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE on CHINA.

On **MONDAY EVENING**, March 19, Mr. **JOHN TEMPLETON** will deliver a popular **LECTURE on CHINA** in **MYDDLETON HALL, UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON**. The Lecture will be illustrated with **THIRTY SPLENDID DISSOLVING VIEWS**, exhibited on a large scale, and illuminated by the **Lime-Light**. To commence precisely at **EIGHT o'clock**. Reserved Seats, One Shilling; Children Sixpence. Unreserved Seats, Sixpence. The whole of the proceeds will be devoted to the **Baptist Missionary Society's Fund for China**.

Tickets may be had at 19, Paternoster-row, and at the Hall.

"Of the lecture itself we can speak most favourably. The whole of the discourse was interesting in the highest degree, and must prove attractive for a very long time."—City Press.

"The lecture was full of interest and information. The views were really beautiful specimens of art."—Clerkenwell News.

W. ROTHERY, Secretary.

Young Men's Missionary Association.

OPENING of the NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (Union of Baptists and Independents), **PLAISTOW, E.** (Rev. **JOHN CURWEN**, Pastor.)

FIRST DAY of OPENING SERVICES, **THURSDAY**, Mar. 22.—Rev. S. MARTIN, of Westminster, will preach at 12.15 noon; and Rev. A. RALEIGH at 6.30 p.m.—**DINNER** at Two, 2s. 6d. each; **TEA** at Five, 1s.; both, 2s.—Revs. C. Gilbert, A. Reed, B.A., Baldwin Brown, J. Viney, J. Kennedy, M.A., &c., will deliver Addresses between the Services.

SECOND DAY, **SUNDAY**, 25th.—Rev. R. HALEY, D.D., will Preach at 11; Rev. J. KENNEDY, M.A., at 6.30.

THIRD DAY, **TUESDAY**, 27th.—Rev. C. H. SPURGEON will preach at 3 and at 7.—**TEA** at Five, 1s.—Doors open, for free admission, twenty minutes before each service; admission before that time, through Vestry, by Tickets, 1s. each.

TRAINS leave Fenchurch (Tilbury Line) at 10.37, 11.50, 2.5, 3.22, 5.22, 6.37.—Return Tickets, from Fenchurch or any North London Railway Station, 6d. or 9d.

AID (much needed) will be thankfully received by Rev. JOHN CURWEN, Plaistow, E.

BRITISH JEWS' SOCIETY for the PROPAGATION of the GOSPEL AMONG the JEWS.

A **SERMON** will be preached in aid of the above Society in **CRAVEN CHAPEL, MARSHALL-STREET, GOLDEN-SQUARE**, on **THURSDAY EVENING** next, March 15, by the Rev. A. M. HENDERSON, of Claremont Chapel. Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL, BROAD SANCTUARY,

(Opposite Westminster Abbey).

On **SUNDAY**, 18th of March, 1860, **TWO SERMONS**, in aid of the Funds of this Charity, will be preached in **WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, JAMES-STREET, BUCKINGHAM PALACE**, by the Rev. **SAMUEL MARTIN**, Minister of Westminster Chapel.

Divine Service will commence in the Morning at Eleven, and in the Evening at Half-past Six o'clock.

VOLUNTARY and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

The **COMMITTEE of the VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** earnestly appeal to the Friends of Free Religious Education on behalf of that Society.

The object of the Association is to render Assistance in Establishing and Sustaining Day-Schools, conducted on the Voluntary Principle, in which an unsectarian and religious education is imparted to the children.

The following extracts from the correspondence of the Committee will show the character of the cases assisted, and the need there is for help being given:—

"The last grant made to the school preserved it from being closed, and encouraged the people to support it as they had never done before."

"The grant is sufficiently large to relieve me of all fears for the school, and not so large as to render unnecessary the most strenuous efforts of our friends here."

"The school here has been established five years, and during that period has been supported entirely by the children's pence and subscriptions of friends. These have hitherto been found adequate, though most strenuous efforts have been necessary. We find, however, that this year there will be a considerable deficit. This is a consequence of the persevering, and, I fear, in some cases, unscrupulous efforts, of the friends of the national school, which is supported largely by Government grants. Every means have been tried to ruin our school—bribes, threats, Church influence, landlord influence, &c. We are doing our utmost, and now confidently appeal to you to help us. We hope that you will not allow us to be crushed without an effort to save us."

The following sums have already been received:

£. s. d.			£. s. d.		
G. W. Alexander,			J. Barrett, Esq.,	5	0
Esq.	100	0 0	R. S. Ashton, Esq.,	50	0
S. Morley, Esq.,	100	0 0	R. Peck, Esq.,	5	0
J. Sturge, Esq.	50	0	Rev. Joseph Fox	10	0
C. Sturge, Esq.,	10	0	H. Kelsall, Esq.,	5	0
H. R. Flington, Esq.,	10	0	T. Buxton, Esq.,	20	0
C. E. Mudie, Esq.,	52	10 0	Joshua Field, Esq.,	5	0
W. Edwards, Esq.,	21	0 0			

SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS of any amount will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. W. Alexander, Esq., 10, Lombard-street, E.C.; or by the Rev. H. Richard and Jos. Barrett, Esq., the Honorary Secretaries, at the Office of the Society, 7, Blomfield-street, Finsbury, E.C.

THE OPPONENTS of CHURCH-RATES

are urged everywhere immediately to petition both Houses of Parliament to pass **SIR JOHN TRELAUNY'S BILL** for **ENTIRE ABOLITION**.

Forms of petition, with all the requisite instructions, may be obtained of the undersigned.

Communications from persons willing to co-operate are

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS,
2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street, London.

TO the MEMBERS of the BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Although at the Annual Meeting, held on Tuesday the 28th February, the show of hands was nearly two to one in favour of Messrs. BENNETT, BUNNELL, BURTON, and BURGE, Mr. John Runtz demanded a Ballot, which the Chairman has fixed to be taken on **MONDAY, MARCH 19th**, at 32, New Bridge-street, between the hours of 12 and 4.

We feel sure that the Members, generally, will confirm the decision of the Annual Meeting, and show, by the decisiveness of the majority, that they will not tolerate the pretensions of one who, for seven or eight years, has been disturbing the Meetings of the Company—at one time assailing the management, and at another landing it—one year speaking of the Company as having attained a proud position, and at another most unworthily damaging it in public estimation.

Feeling, as we do, that it would be an evil day for the **BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY** that should see Mr. Runtz elected to a seat at its Board, destroying, as we believe it would, the harmony so essential to the well-working of any commercial institution, we call upon our fellow-members to mark their strong disapproval of this now attempt to force his way into the Direction, notwithstanding the repeated failures he has met with; and now subjecting, not only the retiring Directors, who have from the origin of the Company had seats at the Board, but the Company itself to much needless expense and trouble.

Let every well-wisher of the Company vote for the three retiring Directors, Messrs. BENNETT, BUNNELL, and BURTON; and Mr. BURGE, the former Auditor of the Company.

Let the largeness of the majority on the 19th March demonstrate that no gentleman will be permitted with impunity to imperil the interests of the Company.

Attend personally at the Ballot on the 19th, at Twelve o'clock precisely, and record your votes for the four gentlemen before named. Bring your fellow-members with you, and thus swell the majority on the occasion.

We are, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Fellow Members,

JOSEPH BURGESS, Walworth.
W. H. BIRD, 8, Elizabeth-place, Kennington.
C. TARTLING, 20, Goswell-street.
G. ROOKE, 75, Newgate-street.
C. THOMPSON, 76, 77, 78, Edgeware-road.
H. P. OLNEY, High-street, Borough.
H. R. SILVERSTEIN, Dover-road, Kennington.
H. GABRIEL, 128, Princes-road, Kennington.
C. C. TAYLOR, 212, Whitechapel-road.
WILLIAM DEAR, Brompton.

THOMAS SCHANNON, Brompton.

SAMUEL STIMPSON, 13, Brompton-row.

W. T. HUSTWITT, 1, College-place, Islington.

W. LOVELY, Avenue House, Hammersmith.

RICHARD T. LEWIS, Knightsbridge.

ALFRED FENTON, Knightsbridge.

W. T. WRIGHTON, 3, Phillimore terrace, Kensington.

H. J. TRESIDDER, 19, Paternoster-row.

JOSEPH EAST, Kingston-on-Thames.

WALTER BURTON, Highbury New-park.

AMOS WALLER, Pimlico.

F. J. PREWITT, 11, Crosby-row, Walworth.

W. BENHAM, Assembly-row, Mile-end.

ADAMS and KING, 30, Goswell-street.

SAMUEL WESTLEY, Northampton.

JAMES DUNNINGTON, Ripon.

H. RISEBOROUGH SHARMAN, 57, Cheapside.

GILES GILES, 12, Sidney-place, Commercial-road, East.

T. SMITH, Twickenham.

E. THORNTON, Mile-end.

J. J. SPEAIGHT, Islington.

W. H. CLAPP, North-place, Balls-pond road.

J. CURTIS, Lower Boscom-street.

H. R. ROOKE, Highbury.

R. CARTWRIGHT, 57, Chancery-lane.

H. G. ROGERS, 6, Sutherland-terrace, Walworth.

M. INGLIS, 3, George-yard, Lombard-street.

G. OSBORN, Canal-road, Hoxton.

JOSEPH HUNT, Uxbridge.

FRANCIS SLATER, 120, Cheapside.

GEORGE MOORE, 116 and 117, Holborn-hill.

J. H. TARRANT, New Kent-road.

GODFREY HINDLEY, 134, Oxford-street.

CORNELIUS ROBINSON, St. Ives.

WILLIAM GRIFFIN, 63, Queen-square, Bristol.

J. R. GOULD, Epping.

WILLIAM CARDWELL, Heckmondwike.

ROBERT MORFORD, Staines.

GEORGE ROBERT YOUNG, Staines.

JAMES PASSMORE, Staines.

WILLIAM BUDD, Staines.

WILLIAM WELLER, Staines.

THOMAS JAMES, Staines.

AUGUSTUS BENHAM, 40, Chandos-street.

RUSSELL STEVENS, 6, Offord-road, Barnsbury.

SAMUEL JENNINGS, Melrose-villa, Lee.

G. P. DUNCALE, Waters-green, Macclesfield.

ALFRED BOOT, Dockhead.

AMERSON WILSON, 258, Whitechapel.

HENRY W. AHLEY, 269, Whitechapel.

W. WILSON, 123, Whitechapel.

G. WILSON, 123, Whitechapel.

C. M. FIRMIN, Prospect-house, Old Kent-road.

WILLIAM HAMMOND, Chapel-street, Mayfair.

T. W. CROKER, Leipsic-road, Camberwell.

C. BROWN, White Hart-place, Kennington-lane.

A. FOUNTAIN, Ealing.

S. H. BOWDITCH, 1, Manor rise, Brixton.

W. H. CROAKER, Dover-road.

W. P. J. LLEWELLYN, Great Suffolk-street, Borough.

CHARLES BARLOW.

THOMAS BASTABLE, Kennington.

JAMES C. THORN, Kennington.
E. S. GIBSON, 2, Henry-place, Upper Kennington-lane.
THOMAS SHARPLY, 3, Bridge-street, Vauxhall.
E. DEANE, 186, Lambeth-walk.
G. T. CAIRNS, 173, Lambeth-walk.
J. LOVATT, 17, St. James's-place, New-cross.
C. T. HUNT, 3, Russell-grove, North Brixton.
W. SHEPPARD, 28, Lambeth-walk.
H. RAGGETT, 1, Russell-grove, North Brixton.
W. H. WIDDOWSON, 19, Pratt-street, Lambeth.
JOHN W. STYLES, 8, Malvern-cottages, Clapham-road.
EDWARD JONES, 10, Earl-street, Blackfriars.
ROBERT BOLTON, 1, Maitland-villas, Finchley.
EDWARD H. PAUL, 79, Shoe lane, Holborn.
W. THOMAS, Queen's Printing Office, East Harding-street.
W. T. MARSH, 40, Lambeth-walk.
J. BENNETT, 190, Borough.
C. WOODROFFE, 3, Lawn-place, South Lambeth.
CHARLES T. RANDALL, Mount-street, Walworth.
GEORGE BAMBRIDGE, Windsor.
CHARLES STUART VOULOS, Windsor.
W. H. LESTER, Windsor.
GEORGE HOLDBERNESS, Windsor.
GEORGE GURNEY, Windsor.
GEORGE WHEELER, Windsor.
CHARLES SMITH, Windsor.
March 12, 1860.

TO MEDICAL MEN.—An excellent **OPENING** now presents itself in a small Market Town to any Gentleman in the Profession. A thorough-going Dissector will be preferred. The Advertiser has no personal interest in the matter.

Letters, enclosing Postage Stamps, may be addressed to Mr. Dillon, at Mr. Bowen's, Grocer, Bishop's Castle, Salop.

N.B.—This advertisement will not be continued.

SCHOLASTIC.—WANTED, at Lady-day, an **ASSISTANT** in a **SCHOOL** where Pupils are prepared for the Middle Class Examinations.

Address, Mr. G. Todd, B.A., Stamford-hill School, N.

A **PUPIL TEACHER**, just out of her Apprenticeship, is anxious to obtain a **SITUATION** as **ASSISTANT TEACHER** in a British, Congregational, or Private School. Salary (for the first year) not so much an object as an opportunity for improvement.

Apply to the Rev. George Hubbard, Corfe Castle.

TO BRITISH SCHOOLMASTERS and OTHERS.—The **FRIENDS of a YOUTH**, whose education has been much neglected, **WISH to PLACE him as PUPIL-TEACHER** in a **SCHOOL**, to board and lodge with the master. Terms must be moderate.

Apply to A. B., 16, St. Edmund-street, Weymouth.

TO BOOKSELLERS.—A **MANAGER** is WANTED for the **DEPOSITORY of the BOOK SOCIETY** for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor.

Apply by letter, stating age and qualifications, addressed to the Committee, at the Depository, 19, Paternoster-row, not later than the 22nd inst.

WANTED, immediately, as **ASSISTANT** in a **DRAPERY and HOSIERY BUSINESS**, a **YOUNG WOMAN**, who knows something of Cloakmaking.

Apply, B. 11, Old-square, Birmingham.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, immediately, a **YOUNG LADY**, for a **GENERAL COUNTRY TRADE**, who understands Trimming Bonnets, &c., &c., and would conform to the rules of a Dissenting family.

Apply to Mr. James Osborn, Bidestone, Suffolk.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a **YOUNG MAN**, used to a bustling Country Business. State age, salary, and two last employers, and how long with each, and in what religious connexion.

Address, Heelas and Sons, Wokingham, Berks.

A **JUNIOR** also WANTED.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a **YOUNG MAN**, thoroughly acquainted with the Fancy Departments, and who can dress a window.

Apply at 15 Brecknock-place, Camden-road, Camden-town.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, by a **YOUNG MAN**, accustomed to a good trade, a **CHRISTIAN HOME**.

Address, A. B., 9, Stockwell Park-road, Brixton.

TO CABINETMAKERS and UPHOLSTERERS, or IRONMONGERS.—WANTED to **PLACE** a **YOUTH**, fifteen years of age, in a religious family, where a thorough knowledge of either of the above Businesses can be acquired.

Apply, stating terms, &c., to Wm. Fisk, St. Albans, Herts.

WANTED, in a **FAMILY TEA, GROCERY, and PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT**, a good **COUNTERMAN**. A member of a Christian Church preferred.

Address, Mr. S. Shaw, Andover, Hants.

TO GROCERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a **YOUNG MAN**, who has had some little experience in the **GROCERY and PROVISION TRADE**.

Apply, stating particulars as to age, salary, &c., to J. Ashpin, 3, High-street, Eton, near Windsor.

HOME COMFORTS.—**ANONBURY.**—APARTMENTS to LET, Furnished or Unfurnished, with the opportunity of a quiet home.

Apply, by letter, to A. M. Y., Miles's Library, Upper-street, Islington.

DEVON.—TO BE SOLD, with possession at Lady-day next, a flourishing CLASSICAL and MATHEMATICAL DAY SCHOOL for BOYS, in a large town. Number of pupils, from forty to fifty. Income, \$504. Expenses small. Premium, 1204. References required. Address, Y. Z., 8, High-street, Ipswich.

COALS.—Best Coals only. —**COOKERELL** and Co.'s price is now 20s. per ton cash for the BEST SCREENED COALS, and 14s. per chaldron cash for the BEST COKE, as supplied by them to her Majesty.—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, East-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Belgrave-place, Pimlico, S.W.; and Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 25s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 24s.; best Silkestone, 24s.; Clay Cross, 23s.; Hartley's, 18s.; Coke, per chaldron, 14s.
B. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union-wharfs, Regent's-park. Chief Offices: 160 and 206, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—By Screw and Railway.—**HIGHBURY** and **KINGSLAND** COAL DEPOTS.—**LEA** and **COMPANY'S HETTON** and **LAMBTON'S WALLSEND**, the best House Coals, 24s. per ton, direct from the Collieries by screw-steamers; Hartlepool, 24s.; best small, 13s.; Silkestone, first class, 24s.; second, 23s.; best Clay Cross, 23s.; second, 21s.; Barnsley, 19s.; Hartley, 18s. per ton, net cash. Delivered screened, to any part of London.—All orders to be addressed to **LEA** and **CO.**, Chief Offices, North London Railway Stations, Highbury, Islington, and Kingsland.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, SLOUGH.
Conducted by Mr. VERNY.
Sound Education on moderate terms, in a healthy locality, eighteen miles from town.
Full Particulars promptly supplied.

HERTFORD COLLEGIATE SCHOOL.
J. C. CANE, PRINCIPAL.
Terms—Ten Guineas per quarter inclusive.
Prospectuses on application.

LADIES' SCHOOL, EASTGATE HOUSE, WARWICK.

Mrs. BURDETT continues to receive Young Ladies, who are carefully instructed in the ordinary accomplishments, whilst great attention is given to all the important branches of a useful education.

Mrs. BURDETT has had large experience in Tuition, and in proof of the advancement and happiness of her Pupils, can confidently appeal to the testimony of their Parents.

Eastgate House is commodious, and has a delightful garden attached to it.

Masters of eminence attend the Establishment. Terms moderate, which, together with References, will be forwarded on application.

CLASSICAL and COMMERCIAL BOARDING SCHOOL, RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.
(Established 1797.)

Conducted by Messrs. UWINS and HENSON.
A sound Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education, with careful religious, moral, and physical training.

The situation of the establishment is elevated and healthy, within a short drive of Southend; and an omnibus passes the academy daily, meeting the morning and evening trains from London at the Benfleet station.

Terms very moderate.
A prospectus forwarded on application, and numerous and highly satisfactory references given to the Parents of Pupils.

STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,
48, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON,
JESSE HOBSON, F.S.S., Secretary.

£281,953 have been advanced since May, 1851, by the PERPETUAL INVESTMENT LAND and BUILDING SOCIETY, 37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.—MONEY ready to be advanced in large or small sums, for long or short periods, upon the security of freehold, copyhold, and leasehold property. Law charges fixed; redemption easy. Prospectuses may be had at the office of the Society, 37, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, daily, between the hours of Nine and Five, and on Wednesday evenings from Six to Eight.

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

BANK of DEPOSIT,
Established A.D. 1844.

No. 3, FILL MALL EAST, LONDON, S.W.
Capital Stock, £100,000.

Parties desirous of investing Money are requested to examine the Plan of the Bank of Deposit, by which a high rate of interest may be obtained with ample security.

Deposits made by special agreement may be withdrawn without notice.

The interest is payable in January and July.
PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Forms for opening accounts sent free on application.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

London, E.C., March 1, 1860.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at the ANNUAL MEETING of the COMPANY, held at RADLEY'S HOTEL, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, on the 28th day of February, 1860, Messrs. Charles Bennett, Peter Bunnell, John Robert Burton, George William Burge, and John Runtz, were nominated as candidates in the place of Mr. Richard Cartwright, resigned, and one of the three retiring Directors.

The show of hands having been declared in favour of Messrs. Bennett, Bunnell, Burton, and Burge, and a Ballot having been demanded, Mr. John Gover, the Chairman of the Meeting, fixed MONDAY, March 19, 1860, at the Offices of the Company, No. 32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON, when the BALLOT for the ELECTION of FOUR DIRECTORS will be taken between the hours of Twelve and Four.

JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF EVERY KIND AND FROM ANY CAUSE
Insured against by an Annual Payment of 3l. to the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
which secures 1,000l. at death, or 6l. weekly for Injury.

ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN of those insured is injured yearly by accident of some description.

No EXTRA premium for Members of Volunteer Rifle Corps. No charge for Stamp Duty.

For Terms, Prospectuses, &c., apply to the Provincial Agents, the Railway Stations, and at the Head Office.

This Company ALONE, without union or amalgamation with any other Company, has paid in

COMPENSATION £53,000.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Company,
Office, 3, Old Broad-street, London, (E.C.)

DEPOSIT, ASSURANCE, and DISCOUNT BANK.

FIVE PER CENT. on Sums for fixed periods or at seven days' notice, or Three per Cent. at Call.

Offices: 5, Cannon-street West, E.C.
G. H. LAW, Manager

QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY, for FIRE, LIFE, and ANNUITIES.

CHIEF OFFICE,
QUEEN INSURANCE BUILDINGS, LIVERPOOL.

OFFICE-BEARERS.
THOMAS EDWARDS MOSS, Esq. | CHRISTOPHER BUSHELL, Esq.
EDWARD HEATH, Esq.

BOARD OF DIRECTION.
CHAIRMAN—Edward Heath, Esq.
DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—Thomas B. Forwood, Esq.

THOMAS F. BENNETT, Esq. | ALEXANDER HASTIE, Esq.
FRANCIS A. CLINT, Esq. | J. HARTLEY HIND, Esq.
KENNETH DOWIE, Esq. | JOSEPH KITCHEN, Esq.
GEORGE W. EWING, Esq. | JOHN L. NEWALL, Esq.
C. R. HALL, Esq. | JAMES A. PICTON, Esq.

T. STAMFORD RAFFLES, Esq.
BANKERS—Messrs. Moss and Co.
SOLICITORS—Messrs. Haigh and Thompson.

AUDITORS—Messrs. Harwood Banner and Son.
PHYSICIAN—James Turnbull, Esq., M.D.

MANAGER AND ACTUARY TO THE COMPANY—W. P. CLIREHUGH, Esq.

LONDON BRANCH.
OFFICE—2, Royal Exchange Buildings.
BANKERS—Messrs. Barclay Bevan and Co.

MEDICAL REFEREE—J. EDWARD POLLOCK, Esq., M.D.
RESIDENT SECRETARY—Hugh Brown Taplin, Esq.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.
OFFICE—30, St. Ann's-street
RESIDENT SECRETARY—John Kingsley, Esq.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders was held on the 21st October, 1859, THOMAS B. FORWOOD, Esq. Deputy-Chairman in the Chair. The Meeting was numerously and influentially attended.

From the Directors' Report it appears that the New Income for the year exceeded 20,000l.; and after payment of Losses by Fire, expenses of Management, and the expenses necessarily incurred in opening the Branches and Agencies, a balance of 9,500l., in favour of the Company was shown on the year's transactions.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.
The large extension of New Business in this Department is shown by the following comparison between the first two and the third and fourth Quarters of the year:—

In the Two First Quarters the Amount Assured was £1,759,000
In the Third and Fourth Quarters the Amount was 3,877,000

Exhibiting an increase of £2,118,000
And making the Total Amount Assured with the Company during the Year £5,636,000

LIFE DEPARTMENT.
The same gratifying progress has been made in this as in the Fire Department.

Assurances of every description dependent on human life, at rates of premium commensurate with the risk, and as low as is consistent with safety.

SPECIAL FRATERNITY.—Non-forfeiture of Policies, as explained in the following clauses:—In case of the Assured being desirous, from any cause, to discontinue the Premiums on an ordinary life policy, the Company will, after the Policy has been in force three years, grant a paid up Policy, for the total amount of Premiums paid in, and any Bonus that may have been added.

LOANS.—Advances are made by the Directors to eligible parties on personal security combined with a Life Policy.

Every information on the business of the Company may be obtained on application at the Chief or Branch Offices, or to any of the Agents of the Company.

Application for Agencies requested.
W. P. CLIREHUGH, Manager.
H. B. TAPLIN, London Secretary.

CLOSED UPPERS.—Price List (free by post) on application to M. H. DEED, West Central Leather and Shoe Mercery Warehouse, 41 and 42, High-street, St. Giles's, London, W.C.

TRY SANDS' PERFECT FITTING GARMENTS, the cheapest and best in London.
Sands, 17, Holborn-hill, opposite Furnival's Inn.

BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.
BRITISH SEWING MACHINE.
Price £12.

The only Family Sewing Machine in Great Britain. Tailors, dressmakers, capmakers, shirtmakers, staymakers, &c., can make it clear profit weekly by using the BRITISH SEWING MACHINE.

82, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.

PATENT £6 6s. WHEATSTONE'S FIVE-OCTAVE HARMONIUM. Has double pedals, with soft agreeable quality of tone.

Manufactured by the Patentees, WHEATSTONE and CO., 20, Conduit-street, Regent-street.

PIANOFORTES EXTRAORDINARY at MOORE and MOORE'S, 104, Bishopsgate-street Within.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XX.—NEW SERIES, No. 750.]

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Eccliaastical Affairs.

WANTED, A QUIET, EASY, AND GENTEEL RELIGION.

THE *Saturday Review* is down upon us. We have been expecting the blow for some time past, but could not guess precisely where it would fall. The stricken part is not exactly that which we should have deemed it most necessary to guard—and now that it has been hit we are scarcely conscious of pain. The Liberation Society is denounced, not on the ground of the injustice of its plans, nor on account of their sacrilegious character—but for the social change which its success would bring about. "Church-rates," says the writer, "ought to be defended on the simple ground that their abolition is a vast step towards dis-establishing the Church as it is. When the dis-establishment grows nearer, the Church will cease to be recruited from the ranks of intelligence and education; and a starved, an ignorant, and a weakened Church is a great national misfortune. It is quite possible that in the eyes of serene philosophy, a formal, old-fashioned, unprogressive Church is either cold, or unsuited to the spirit of the age. But England is not philosophic, nor likely to become so." This is a richly suggestive passage. It assumes that "intelligence and education" is attracted towards the Establishment, not by any religious preference, far less by an unwavering faith in its fitness and power to evangelise the people, but by its honours and emoluments—that when these are likely to be lost, "intelligence and education" will slink from its side—that England (for which we read England as conceived of by the *Saturday Review*) desires "a formal, old-fashioned, unprogressive Church," even if it be "cold, or unsuited to the spirit of the age"—and that any step towards dis-establishing "the Church as it is" would be a great national misfortune.

Now, our readers must not run away with the notion that it is Dissent, merely as such, that the *Saturday Review* is afraid of. On the contrary, of "the old and respectable religion of historical Nonconformity" it is said, "its earnestness and its religious spirit are part of our national history, and wherever it exists it is both respected and respectable." The real horror of the writer who, no doubt, had he lived two hundred years ago, would have shouted against the historical Nonconformists to the tune of "Croppies, lie down," is excited at the remotest prospect of "the sour, active puritanism which Dissent too often becomes in the middle-class population of towns." He has a nervous dread of "the men who make up the modern Town Councils, who rule in Marylebone vestries, who represent and are represented by the penny local papers"—"the men who return members for the Tower Hamlets, who hold grievance-meetings about the parson's surplice, who are members of Temperance Societies, and who agitate against Sunday bands and Sabbath desecration." He cannot endure this type of religion, even in the Church. He declares that "it would be scarcely worth the trouble of a fight to urge claims to the

status of an Establishment on behalf of a clergy whose bishops had no Greek, and whose deans and rectors were of the Close and Curling type." "Whatever," says he, "people may think of chants and copes, we are not going to pull them down to put Little Bethel in their stead. A Tower-Hamletised Church, would be something more serious and more lasting than even Mr. Bryan King's unwise experiment in chasubles. . . . We have not the slightest objection to Bethesda and Dr. Watts's Hymns for those who like them, but we have the strongest dread of those who are the representatives of Ebenezer being the dominant representatives, and the sole teachers of us, our wives and children."

There is no possibility of mistaking the *animus* of this writer, even if he had not included in his contemptuous references, the "Victoria Theatre," Mr. Locke King's Bill "for further securing the liberty of religious worship," and "Lord Ebury's ill-timed attempts to tinker the Prayer-book." He need not have told us that the Church-rate question "is not a religious—or not only a religious—but also a social one." He need not have pointed out to us that "in the interests even of light literature" (the *Saturday Review*, for instance) "the clergy, as they are, are not a contemptible or useless class in the general civilisation of the country." We fully appreciate his meaning when he says, "It is often said by fervid religionists that the Church of England would flourish better in an independent position; and, in a sense, this may be true. But we are arguing the question, not on religious, but on social grounds." No! we cannot well mistake his meaning. His "intelligence and education" holds to the Establishment because it gives *status*, and has prizes to dispense—because its tendency is to frown down such active exertions as those of Lord Shaftesbury, and to cherish the easy-going clergy who promote "light literature"—because it is old-fashioned, aristocratic, and "unprogressive," and, especially, because it eschews Bethels, and Bethesdas, and Ebenezers, and all the other irregular appliances whereby earnest-hearted but unrefined voluntarism does some portion of the serious work, for which the clergy are paid, but which they leave undone.

The old contest is coming on again, slightly modified in its external aspect by the spirit of the age. The Cavaliers and Roundheads will once more measure their strength—the men of fashion and fortune and frivolity with the men of queer names, but earnest religious conviction, and devout spirit. "The Poor Man's Church" will be found to mean, when that struggle sets in, as set in it will, the rich man's type of godliness. There will perhaps be "a solemn league and covenant" on the one hand, too likely, we fear, with a spice of narrow-mindedness, and, on the other, another "Hudibras," written "in the interests of light literature." There will be lofty pretensions charging down in dashing style upon immovable resolution, and indomitable faith. The shock is not far off. We have all along foreseen it. We have more than once, or twice, or thrice, predicted it. It seems to be nearer at hand than we had anticipated. We rejoice that it is so rapidly approaching—that we are allowed to see, even in the distance, "the beginning of the end." We have no sympathy with either ignorance, or want of taste, or bigotry—but, for our part, we shall rather stand with the much-lauged-at worshippers at Bethel, Bethesda, and Ebenezer, who sing Dr. Watts's Hymns, and have a religious creed, than with the well-educated, and delicate-minded scoffers, who would not ruffle one plait of ecclesiastical order, even to rescue crowds of souls from ruin. We know very well who, in the long run, will come off triumphant from this encounter—and when, in accordance with the ordinary laws of Providence, issue is taken on religious questions, and strength of purpose has to decide it, we are confident that, after a few small defeats here and there, the men with queer names, and fervid hearts, will be quite equal to the "intelligent and educated" votaries of "Greek" and "light literature."

But, after all, the article in the *Saturday Review* hits the Liberation Society very obliquely—the direct antagonists of that misrepresented organisation catch the heaviest blows. It is active, earnest, aggressive evangelicism in the church which the writer evinces most desire to keep in check—the Closes and the Curlings—the patrons of Temperance Societies, and theatre preachings—the agitators against Sunday bands and Sabbath desecration. A large proportion of such men among both Churchmen and Methodists, are labouring to the utmost to maintain Church-rates as an "integral part" of the Establishment. They do not yet appear to be aware, as one day they will be, that the Establishment is valued by "the intelligent and educated" class, chiefly on account of its aptitude to resist the pressure of this Evangelical aggressiveness. This is "the fervid religionism" which it is so desirable, for social reasons, to counterbalance with State-and-Church arrangements, albeit, "old fashioned, unprogressive, cold, and unsuited to the spirit of the age." The writer sees much more clearly the sobering, shall we add, the suppressive, tendency of the Establishment than do the objects of his contemptuous sneers. The *Record* and the *Watchman* are ready enough to reproach the Liberation Society with receiving the support of men whose religious aims differ in other respects from their own. Well, we shall see what they will do with the *Saturday Review*—for assuredly, the object of the writer who has advocated Church-rates as an important feature of the Church Establishment, differs *toto celo* from their own, in upholding the same cause.

The most determined opposition of this *Reviewer* is directed against Mr. Dillwyn's Endowed Schools Bill, and Sir John Trelawny's Abolition of Church-rates Bill. It will remind our friends to do their duty in regard to both measures, if they have not already done it. Mr. Dillwyn's Bill will come on for second reading on Wednesday next; and, as the time is too short, and the circumstances unpropitious for any petitioning movement in its favour, we hope there will be the more assiduity, on the part of Liberal constituents, in communicating their wishes to their respective representatives. The latter Bill will be once more discussed, and divided upon, on Wednesday week, when, we trust, the "great cloud" of petitions in its favour will have proved that the majority of the people of England are in earnest in this matter, and are not intent upon preserving this relic of ecclesiastical barbarism for the sake of providing "men of intelligence and education" with "a quiet, easy, and genteel religion."

CHURCH-RATES ABOLITION BILL.

THE PETITIONING MOVEMENT.

To stimulate others who may not yet have begun to take their part in the important work of petitioning, we supply further information to show how bravely it goes on in many parts of the country. Should the intended demonstration prove, as we trust it will, a great success, we hope that every abolitionist will have the pleasure of remembering that he had a share in it.

THE TOWNS.

We are glad to learn that in Manchester the city petition has already received more than 8,000 signatures, and that the signing is still going on. At Bristol the general petition is likely to have 3,000 signatures, over and above all the signatures attached to the congregational petitions, which will be very numerous. Altogether, about 100 petitions will come up from that city and neighbourhood. At Wolverhampton the abolitionists are doing all they can, and hope to send up a good number of petitions from the surrounding district. At Plymouth they have called a public meeting, in which Churchmen are expected to take part with Dissenters against the rates. In Lincoln, under the very shadow of the cathedral, there is a general petition; the different denomina-

tions are all sending petitions; and a great part of the Old Conference Wesleyans are expected to join the movement. The petition from York is "progressing favourably," and there is "little doubt of its having more than 3,000 signatures." Leicester is doing admirably. "We shall send one petition to each House from the Town Council, and not less than twenty congregational petitions." At Chester the petitioning is going on well, and at Tamworth, in addition to petitions from six different congregations, including Methodists and Catholics, there is a town petition, to which from 1,000 to 1,200 signatures are expected. At Sheffield it is expected that, from the town and neighbourhood, no less than 120 petitions will be sent; a town's petition, and one from the corporation, are in progress. At Hanley a town's petition has already received upwards of 1,000 signatures. The "little Tory town" of Wendover has its petition in course of signature, and already 90 names are affixed, including that of "one of the churchwardens and two other influential Churchmen." The Aylesbury friends are busy at all the four chapels. Petitions are also preparing at Newmarket, Lyme Regis, and Paulerspury. At Taunton "our friends are doing their best." At Kirkham, in Lancashire, they have "upwards of 1,100 signatures, and, if time permitted, would easily have obtained those of four-fifths of the population. It has been signed by Churchmen, Catholics, and Dissenters of all denominations."

THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGHES.

We are glad to learn that signatures are likely to be obtained to the City petition in large numbers. It is in the power of any City friend to promote the success of this particular petition by sending to the Liberation Society for signature sheets.

In Finsbury and Lambeth committees are now forming for the purpose of obtaining general petitions from the borough, and a subscription list is opened to defray the expenses. We hope that this week similar committees will be formed in the Tower Hamlets, Westminster, Southwark, and Greenwich, as next week is the last which will be available for the purpose. At Woolwich a dozen petitions are in progress.

We have heard of several congregations in London which have not yet petitioned, and therefore earnestly request our metropolitan friends who may be connected with such places, to ascertain before Sunday that a petition will be ready, and, if not, to provide one themselves.

THE SMALLER TOWNS AND THE VILLAGES.

At Aylesbury there is a town's petition, and petitions from each of the congregations; and a committee has been formed to supply all the surrounding villages; while all the market towns in the country are being urged to move. At Ashford there is an organisation for the same purpose, and something like thirty petitions are in course of signature. Abingdon will send a town's petition, and four congregational petitions, while seven others are in hand in villages in the neighbourhood. Biggleswade is looking after the surrounding parishes, and ten or eleven petitions are receiving signatures. At Hereford they are writing to different parts of the county and "will not be behind." From Honiton we hear that several petitions "have been prepared for the neighbouring parishes"; from Warminster, that "our friends will have a dozen petitions from the town and neighbourhood." At Bramley, near Leeds, they have several petitions out, and are exerting themselves to promote others in the neighbouring places. At Blandford the town petition "is filling fast," while thirteen of the surrounding villages have been supplied, and towns in the neighbourhood have been urged to exertion. The villages in the neighbourhood of Market Drayton are petitioning, and, says our correspondent, "We should have obtained more signatures if people had dared to act according to their sense of justice; but, with the influence of the Church opposing them, they are afraid to let their opinions be known." In spite of difficulties of this nature, which are not confined to a few localities, the petitioning movement is being vigorously carried on in the rural parishes, and little places like Earith and Bluntham, in Hunts, Sutton, Isle of Ely, and Weston-Tunville, are speaking out boldly in favour of abolition. Rayleigh, in Essex, sends its petition, and the neighbouring village of Houndesly sends one. Alresford, Hants, has its petition, and Walsingham and adjoining villages in Norfolk send four. At Oakhill, near Bath, the clergyman is circulating tracts charging the Dissenters with "schism and sin," and they are replying with an anti-Church-rate petition. From Mere, near Bath, will come at least twenty. "The Primitive Methodists are very hearty."

WALES.

An active friend at Haverfordwest, whose zeal our friends elsewhere would do well to imitate, writes,—"I have prepared fifty petitions for the Baptist congregations in Pembrokeshire, in duplicate, and a like number for the Independent congregations. I have not yet exhausted my list; I have several others to prepare. I have prepared likewise a petition which has been numerously signed by the inhabitants of this town; and another for the Town Council of the borough, which we have carried nem. con. We struck off a thousand of Mr. Miall's 'The Death Spasm,' and distributed them all over the

country. And now we mean to follow up the Archdeacon's plan and try the parishes."

A friend at Llechryd writes that between that neighbourhood and Brynmawr, Brecon, they will be able to get up a dozen petitions, all numerously signed.

From Carmarthen a friend writes:—"Petitions will go from all the Dissenting congregations in this town. Hope no compromise will be entertained. We would rather fight the battle as heretofore, in our vestries, than compromise."

A Swansea friend writes:—"You will find next week that this neighbourhood, to the extent of from ten to twenty miles, in various directions, is thoroughly worked. Mr. G., the printer, works, as usual, with all his might. Written petitions are left at his shop to be ready for those who call from the country, and Mr. G. takes copies with him whenever he goes from home."

THE APPROACHING 28TH OF MARCH.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—On this day fortnight, Sir J. Trelawny will move that the House of Commons go into committee on his bill, and Mr. Paeke will submit the obstructive proposition, that the bill be committed that day six months.

Within fourteen days, therefore, the work of petitioning must be completed, every signature obtained, and every petition posted to the member who is to present it. For congregations there are just two remaining Sundays; but for town petitions there is, practically, next week, and scarcely more. Let, therefore, those whose action has not kept pace with their intentions reckon every day and every hour as too precious to be lost; and, especially, let no one think that his quota of help can be dispensed with, in the prospect of the array of petitions already undoubtedly secured.

Neither should there be any delay in the presentation of petitions now ready. Those for the Lords had better be kept till the bill reaches their lordships; but if the members of the House of Commons are to be influenced in time, the petitions should now come in nightly in a continuous stream. There will, depend upon it, be plenty of late arrivals to provide for a demonstration on the day of the debate.

I believe that everything practicable has been done at this office in the way of disseminating information, suggestions, and appeals. Written petitions also have been despatched as fast as a staff of clerks could produce them; but we are prepared to take any further steps which discretion and zeal may suggest; and, to the last day, shall continue to afford all the facilities at our command to those who wish to contribute by their own exertions to make this petitioning movement a decisive and final one.

Let us not, however, trust too much to petitions, and suppose that they will make it needless to secure by personal appeals the votes of Liberal M.P.'s in support of the bill. The utmost pressure is being put not only upon the Conservative but on certain of the Liberal M.P.'s; and the reserves on our side should be the subject of equal solicitude. The votes of the absentees of the last division are not likely to decide the passing of the bill by the Commons, but they will decide whether it shall go up to the Peers with a majority which their lordships will be unable to despise. The doubtful members who have already voted should also understand that their support at this next stage will be as needful as at the last, and that, in fact, they must vote until the Speaker has put the question, "that this bill do pass." The strong probability that a General Election, with enlarged constituencies, will take place within a year ought to tell immensely in our favour.

Lastly, though your readers may not need the caution, they may know others whom it may be necessary to impress with a sense of the danger of employing any equivocal means for multiplying signatures to the petitions. A complaint—whether well or ill founded I do not know—already made has suggested this reference; and it may be foreseen that the supporters of Church-rates, when they find themselves beaten by the weapon of their own choice, will seize upon every available pretext for treating with contempt the petitions arrayed against them. Judging from facts already known, re-creation would be easy; but all will feel that the necessity for it would be most undesirable.

Yours truly,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street,
Wednesday Morning.

LETTERS FROM THE COUNTRY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I have only just learnt that the pro-Church-rate party in this town are going from house to house, to obtain signatures to a petition embodying their views. I do not know what success they may meet with, but as a clergyman and an influential layman appear to accompany each other in the various parochial districts—at any rate, this is the case in some instances—they may, perhaps, influence a good many.

The local committee of the Liberation Society had determined only to send petitions from the various congregations, as they did not wish to disturb the good feeling which prevails in the town. Our opponents, however, have left us no choice, and we must tell those gentlemen who were fought and vanquished more than twenty years ago, that we are as much alive and active as ever.

It is not yet decided what means we shall adopt, but we certainly shall not allow them to walk over the ground.

I write these few lines that parties in other towns may be on their guard. If our opponents can exert themselves in so miserable a cause, surely we, who have something much nobler and higher to fight for, will not fail also to exert ourselves to the utmost.

Do not let any suppose that it is unnecessary to petition, as the bill is sure to pass. I have heard something of this kind, at which I have been somewhat surprised.

I am, yours, &c.,

VIGILANCE.

Wolverhampton, March 12, 1860.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—You will be glad to find that your late appeals are bearing fruits. On reading your first article, a lady and gentleman in this town (both leading members of the Society of Friends) at once took the matter up, and within two days eighty petitions were written out, and, with blank sheets attached, were forwarded to every chapel in the town and surrounding districts, with printed instructions, and the number has since been increased to one hundred. The petitions are now coming in, well filled up—the lady herself having sent off (up to this evening) about 5,000 signatures to Serjeants' Inn. It is surprising with what zeal the matter has been taken up in some of the villages. In one case, from a small village, about 180 signatures were obtained; in another 300 signatures, and a request made for additional blank sheets.

The Liberation Committee in this town have had petitions prepared for the various parishes, which they are about issuing. But committees work slowly. The work must mainly rest with individuals, if it is to be done at all. Pray urge all who can to lend a helping hand.

Ipswich, March 6, 1860.

Yours respectfully,

C. J.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I hasten to inform you what we are doing here. A meeting was called on the 2nd inst. to consider what means should be adopted to support the bill introduced by Sir John Trelawny for the abolition of Church-rates; at which it was resolved that petitions should be sent from each section of the Dissenting community, and a general petition from the inhabitants of the town. We calculate on at least 1,000 signatures to the latter. The whole will be sent to J. L. Ricardo, Esq., for presentation in the Commons, and, probably, to Earl Granville in the Lords. In addition to the petitions in this town, I have written two for Alsager, one from Wesleyan Methodists, and one from the inhabitants; two for Kildgrove, from the Primitive Methodists and inhabitants; one from Congregational Independents at Tunstall, and another from the same body at Tomkin.

I am glad to learn from the last number of the Nonconformist that the adherents of Christian willinghood are generally active throughout the country, and trust the result will be a deluge of petitions that will effectually silence all hints that total abolition is not desired by the people.

Yours, &c.,

J. H.

Burslem, March 12, 1860.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The friends of Nonconformity and religious freedom, here, as well as elsewhere, rejoice to find that a new impulse has been given to the anti-Church-rate movement since your appeal on the recent division on Sir J. Trelawny's bill. Our opponents are diligent enough now they perceive their craft is in danger. Down here they are petitioning in every nook and corner, and their tale is, "The Church is in danger." Of course, they confine their operations to all the little out-of-the-way places where comparatively few of those who sign know what a Church-rate is, being for the most part cottagers, while others are in some way or other interested in the concern. Quite certain I am that there are very few (if any) sign because they love the Church-rates.

We have sent petitions to the neighbouring villages, and I and one of my friends, acting on your suggestions, drew up our petition, and began at one end of the town, taking every house. As far as we went, only one refused to sign. The common expression was, almost at every house, "We have rates enough already, without being compelled to pay for a form of religion we don't like." So far, sir, from the people being favourable to so vile an impost, we who labour among them know better, and if necessary can prove to our opponents quite the contrary.

I am, &c.,

H. C.

Watton, Norfolk, 8th March, 1860.

A VOICE FROM A RURAL PARISH.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The gravity of the present position of the Church-rate question cannot, I think, be overrated.

May I be allowed to give the aspect of the question from my own point of view, as the minister of a congregation of some standing and position in a purely agricultural county? And with all the earnestness of which I am capable, I would entreat the abolitionists to accept of no compromise on the ground of exempting Dissenters from payment of the rate. For what Dissenting farmer, holding under a bigoted Church landlord, would dare to claim exemption, or, if he did, would have the chance of doing it the second time? What would a village tradesman, largely depending on the squire and the clergyman, or the labourer, working for a Church farmer, be the better for such a nominal privilege, so distasteful to his Church neighbours? Far better that the law remain as it is, than when we ask for bread, to be handed a stone; or when we ask for an egg, to be sarcastically presented with a scorpion. I should not thus speak, had I not opportunities of judging, from considerable intercourse with those parties who would be largely affected by such a measure. *Verbum sap. sat.*

Yours cordially, Mr. Editor,

March 10, 1860.

CANTABRIGIENSIS.

TOWN COUNCILS.

At a meeting of the Town Council of Newcastle-upon-Tyne last week, Mr. Henry Angus moved that a petition be presented from the Council, praying the immediate and total abolition of Church-rates. Mr. Harle, though a Churchman, would second that motion. Mr. Gregson had no sympathy either with Church-rates or Church revolutionists; but this was

a question with which the Council had nothing whatever to do. Mr. Hamond moved the Council to proceed to the next business. The amendment was lost and the motion carried. The following is a copy of the petition:—

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, under their common seal,

Sheweth,—

That for the last twenty-five years and upwards the question of levying Church-rates has been in agitation by the public, and has occasioned much ill-feeling in the minds of members of various religious persuasions; and in the opinion of your petitioners it is desirable that the contests and the acrimony which attend the attempt to impose a Church-rate should be put an end to.

That for several years past Church-rates have ceased to be made or collected in all the parishes within the borough and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and all ill-feeling which existed whilst Church-rates were levied and collected in this borough has now subsided.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House will be pleased to pass law for the immediate and total abolition of Church-rates.

Similar petitions have been adopted by the Town Councils of Leicester and Haverfordwest, and we shall be glad to learn that other municipalities have joined in this last effort to get rid of local heart-burnings.

THE WESLEYANS AND CHURCH-RATES.

(From the *Wesleyan Times*.)

Try the question, in fine, by any fair test, and we make certain of the result. The difficulty is, to obtain from a body governed as the Wesleyan Methodists are, a real and united expression of opinion. In its absence, the avoidance by the Conference of any proposal on the subject affords the strongest presumption that the verdict would be one of condemnation. What right had the committee to make a different assumption? They had Mr. George Osborn's word for it, but his only. Far be it from us to stop any man's mouth; yet, by the declared policy, the express rules of the Conference to which he owes allegiance, it was unlawful for him to offer evidence on such a question. Remember, too, that he expressly took upon him to state his own sentiments only. Far from speaking those of the whole body, he was not, we make bold to affirm, a true exponent of those of his own brethren in the ministry, but only of a part even of them. We protest, then, against the opinions of the whole Connection being inferred from his answers: and we demand, in the name of decency as well as of truth, that, since he has raised the question what those opinions are, the Wesleyan Methodist body shall, in some open and honest way, be polled upon the subject. The New Connection, the Primitive Methodists, and the United Free Churches, are, we rejoice to see, joining their brother Dissenters in petitioning Parliament for this too-long-withheld measure of religious freedom and political justice; and we have no doubt that many Wesleyan Methodists will unite with them. But if, when the Petitions Committee present their report, it should appear that, as a body, the Wesleyan Methodists have not manifested their sentiments, we tell Parliament beforehand, it will be only because their preachers foresee the result too well to have the manliness and the courage to afford the Connection a distinct opportunity.

(From the *Suffolk Chronicle*.)

Our acquaintance with the Wesleyans in this and other places induces us to say that the statement of the Committee is simply false. That statement is no doubt due to the Rev. George Osborn, who obtruded himself upon the Committee; to fawn upon and flatter the Church with the most sickening eulogies. We have been told that the rev. gentleman attended before the Committee, not as a representative man, but simply as an individual. It is clear the Committee considered him an exponent of the views of the Wesleyans, or they would not have come to their absurd and erroneous conclusion. If Mr. Osborn did not attend as a representative man, why did he present himself at all? Is he on such good terms with himself as to suppose that, as a private individual, his opinions would be worth more than the humblest member of the society to which he belongs?

Are the Wesleyans, as a body, in favour of Church-rates? What is the fact as far as Ipswich is concerned? Why, that within the last month petitions to both Lords and Commons have been signed at the Wesleyan chapel, praying for total and unconditional repeal. Not only have the congregation done that; but they have shown the friends of compulsion what can be done when the heart is rightly impressed with a sense of religious responsibility. Whilst in the same parish there has been no end of wretched jangling and wrangling amongst the congregation at the church, with threats to proceed against a churchwarden, to obtain a paltry rate, the not large congregation in Market-lane have raised upwards of 2,000*l.* for a new chapel. Mr. William Pretty heads the subscription list with the noble sum of 1,000*l.*, and another thousand has been contributed by the other part of the congregation, who, with scarcely an exception, have to work hard six days in the week before they get their money. We call this a striking instance of the efficiency of the voluntary principle. If Mr. Osborn is blessed with that placidity of mind and that generosity of nature that he can look with complacency upon Church-rate exactions whilst he is supported by the voluntary offerings of his people, we cannot think that men in

general—who subscribe liberally to their own sect, build their own chapels, pay their own ministers, and provide their own incidental expenses—can fail to detect the injustice of compelling them to pay for another system, which not unfrequently insults them, and very often disparages their ability and ridicules their sincerity.

THE UNITARIANS AND CHURCH-RATES.

(From the *Inquirer*.)

Our duty is clear. Let us use every legitimate effort to swell the tide of anti-rate petitions which is already commencing to pour into the House. Forms of petition have already been placed in the hands of every one of our ministers. Let petitions be sent at once from every Unitarian congregation in the kingdom, either in favour of total abolition, or of some equitable adjustment, according to the respective views of the petitioners. There is no time to be lost. Petitions should be prepared at once and laid before our congregations next Sunday morning at the latest. All should sign—women as well as men—for all have an equal interest in getting rid of this perpetual source of contention. All possible local influence should be brought to bear upon our representatives in Parliament. Towns' meetings should be called wherever practicable, and whenever it is possible let our friends co-operate with their brethren of other denominations in the vigorous efforts which they have already begun. It is not meet that we Unitarians, who were once foremost in every measure for the promotion of our civil rights and religious liberties, should now leave to other denominations the chief labour of the contest, and should then, on the ground of our inactive approval, seek to claim a share in the glory of the victory. There can be no doubt as to the predominant sentiment of our Church on this point. Even those amongst us who, like ourselves, are in favour of the principle of a National Establishment have no good word for Church-rates. The end of the prolonged strife is at hand. Let us not relax our energies when the goal is now in full view.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Tuesday, March 6.—Petitions for the total abolition of Church-rates were presented by Mr. Hardcastle from the congregation of Northgate-street Chapel, Bury St. Edmunds; by Mr. Baines, from congregations at Skipton and Pudsey; by Mr. Butler, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters at Clapton, county of Middlesex; by Sir J. Hanmer, from Caergwile, in Flintshire; by Mr. Willcox, from congregation of Albion Chapel, Southampton; by Mr. Kekewich, from inhabitants of the parish of Lodiwell, Devon; and by Mr. Biscoe, from the Society of Friends at Dorking.

Wednesday, March 7.—Petitions for the total abolition of Church-rates were presented by Mr. Ker Seymer, from Birchwood; by Mr. Massey, from the congregation of the Independent Chapel, Chapel-street, Salford; by Lord Emlin, from Baptist congregations at Camrose and Fynon; by Sir J. C. Jervoise, from a congregation of Dissenters in the parish of Broughton, Hants; by Mr. Bonham-Carter, from congregation of Primitive Methodists at Winchester; by Mr. S. Western, from inhabitants of the parish of South Ockendon, in the county of Essex, and its vicinity; by Mr. Baines, from Rehoboth Chapel, Morley; and by Lord Henniker, from Bramfield and Wenhaston.

Thursday, March 8.—Petitions for the abolition of Church-rates were presented by Sir J. C. Jervoise, from a congregation of Dissenters in the parish of Broughton, Hants; by Mr. Hanbury, from the Protestant Dissenters of Grove Chapel, Ealing; by Mr. Paget, from four dissenting congregations in Sutton-Ashfield; by Mr. Blencowe, from the congregation of the Eastgate-street Chapel, Lewes; by Mr. Baines, from West Melton; by Mr. Kershaw, from members of the congregation of the Independent Chapel, Manchester, and from the Independent Chapel, Henton Mersey, Lancashire; by Mr. Hadfield (3), from the Independent congregations at Bowdon and Sale, Cheshire, and Knottmill, Manchester; by Lord Henley (3), from the inhabitants of Paulerspury, of Roade, and of Ashton, Northamptonshire; by Mr. Massey, from the Baptist Chapel, Great George-street, and the Richmond Independent Chapel, Broughdon; by Mr. Garnett, from the congregation of Independents at Lancaster; by Lord R. Clinton, from members of the Old Meeting, Mansfield, Dissenters of the Baptist Chapel, New Basford, and inhabitants of Hucknall and Skegby; by Mr. Portman, from Sherborne, and by Mr. Gurdon (4), from Holt, Fakenham, Norfolk.

Friday, March 9.—Petitions for the total abolition of Church-rates were presented by Lord Henley, from the inhabitants of Hackleton, Northamptonshire; by Sir J. Trelawny (14), from Rugeley, Kingsbridge, West Drayton, Frome, students of Hackney Theological Seminary, congregation of Devonshire Chapel, London, from Pwllheli, Kerry, parish of Shipton, the Independent Church, Ty'n Bout, of Independent Church, Bala, of Bishop Lavington, and of Market Lavington, Wilts; and from inhabitants of Royston and Minehead, Somersetshire, members of Independent Chapel, Chorley, and minister and congregation of the Methodist Free Church, Tavistock; by Mr. Vivian, from Baptist congregation of Newton Nottage and Wide, Glamorganshire; by Mr. Biggs, from the attendants at the Independent Chapel, Burton Overy, Leicestershire; by Mr. Baines, from congregations in Leek, Staffordshire; by Mr. Hadfield, from congregations at the Baptist Chapel, Rochdale; by Colonel Kingscote, from various congregations of Dissenters, with

1,350 signatures; by Mr. W. O. Stanley, from Rhosimurch Chapel, Anglesey; by Mr. Latham, from an Independent congregation at Wakefield; by Mr. Titus Salt, from the congregation of Westgate Baptist Chapel, Bradford; by Mr. Hanbury, from the congregation of Baptists, Lower Edmonton; by Mr. J. Olive, from Protestant Dissenters of Hereford; and by Mr. Roupell (2), from certain inhabitants of Camberwell New-road and Brixton-hill.

Monday, March 12.—Petitions in favour of the abolition of Church-rates were presented by Sir J. Trelawny, from Protestant Dissenters and others of Westhill and Marshgreen, and of Ottery St. Mary's; congregation of General Baptists, Hill-street, Saffron Walden; Protestant Dissenters, Sammah Chapel, Montgomeryshire; congregation of Calvinistic Methodists, Cemmaes, Montgomeryshire; inhabitants of Gennansweek, Devon; inhabitants of Broadwood-widger, Devon; congregation of the Independent Chapel, South Molton, Devon; and inhabitants of Buxhall, Suffolk; by Mr. Crossley, from the congregation, West Melton, near Rotherham, Yorkshire; by Mr. Stansfeld, from the chairman of Reform Association of Royston, in the borough of Oldham; by Mr. Dodson, from Chiddingfold and neighbourhood; and by Mr. Hardcastle, from Independent congregations at Lavenham, Barrow, and Cockfield, in the county of Suffolk; by Mr. Baines, from Marshall-street Chapel, Leeds, and Sheaf-street Chapel, Daventry; by Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, from Congregational Dissenters at Deal; by Mr. Hadfield, from the congregations of Independent Chapels at Rusholme-road, Manchester, and Middleton, and of the New Jerusalem Church, Bolton-street, Salford; by Mr. Lawson, from the inhabitants of the township of Stainburn, Cumberland; by Mr. Buller, from the parishes of Coldridge and Lapford, in the county of Devon.

Up to the 7th inst. there had been presented 101 petitions in favour of abolition, with 9,005 signatures, or an average of 90 signatures to each petition. We need hardly say that the tide has yet scarcely begun to flow. To the same date 3,990 petitions had been presented on the other side, with 125,423 signatures, being an average of 35 each.

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS QUESTION.

Mr. Dillwyn's Endowed Schools Bill stands for second reading at the day sitting of the House of Commons on Wednesday next. Sir Hugh Cairns' bill on the same subject is down for the same sitting, so that a long and animated discussion may be expected.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTERS' PATENT.

The committee on this subject have, we understand, completed the evidence, and are now engaged in considering their report.

MEETINGS OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

HUNTINGDON.—On the 6th inst. there was a meeting of the society's friends in the school-room of the Baptist Chapel, Huntingdon. The Rev. O. Clarke, B.A., occupied the chair, and introduced Mr. Kearley, who attended as a deputation from the society. Potts Brown, Esq., Mr. T. Redgeley, and other gentlemen took part in the proceedings, and a resolution cordially approving the society's operations was unanimously passed. At the close of the meeting several friends came forward and entered their names as subscribers to the society's fund.

LOUTH.—On Wednesday evening, Mr. Kearley attended a meeting in the school-room of the Free Methodist Chapel, at Louth. The chair was taken by the Rev. J. Schofield. The Rev. W. Orton, Rev. — Pike, E. Newman, Esq., and J. B. Sharply, Esq., addressed the meeting. The latter gentleman declared that it was a libel on the Methodist body to say that they were in favour of Church-rates, and that so far as the Methodists of that neighbourhood were concerned, they would disprove the assertion by sending applications for the abolition of the rates from every congregation.

LONG SUTTON.—A meeting was held on the Corn Exchange, at Long Sutton, on Friday, the 10th. J. Suttaby, Esq., in the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Kearley, the Rev. A. Attenborough, J. A. Richardson, Esq., and other gentlemen. Resolutions were passed approving the society's operations, and a petition agreed to in favour of Sir John Trelawny's bill.

BOSTON.—NONCONFORMIST MEETING.—A large and influential meeting, under the auspices of the Boston Nonconformist Association, was held in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening. The business of the evening was preceded by a public tea-meeting, which was the largest of the kind ever held by the association, and must certainly be regarded as a striking manifestation of the growing interest taken by the public in the principles of Nonconformity. J. Noble, Esq., J.P. was chairman, and having delivered an appropriate introductory address, called upon the Rev. T. W. Matthews to move a resolution, which was done in a very effective speech. It was seconded in a very neat address by the Rev. J. W. Lake. The meeting was then addressed at considerable length, and in a most interesting and instructive manner, by Mr. Kearley, who attended as a deputation from the Liberation Society. He was followed by the Rev. J. Shaw, the Rev. A. Lynn, Mr. G. F. Bayley, and the Rev. W. Boyden. A petition to each chamber of the Legislature praying for the total, unconditional, and immediate abolition

of Church-rates was adopted, and signed by the chairman.—*Stamford Mercury*.

REIGATE.—A meeting to petition in support of the Church-rate Abolition Bill was held in the British School, Reigate, on Friday last. The Rev. G. J. Adeney was chairman, and delivered an excellent address. Mr. Carvell Williams, who was present from the Liberation Society, spoke at length, and in the course of his speech commented on the curious fact that, whereas the supporters of Church-rates would now be only too glad to obtain an act for the exemption of Dissenters only, twenty years ago, when the Dissenters themselves asked for exemption, the request was refused by a majority of fifty-five! Messrs. Dann and Apted, and others, also took part in the proceedings.

THE CHURCH DEFENCE MOVEMENT.

On Friday afternoon a meeting of Lay Consultees of the newly formed Church Institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, for the purpose of receiving a report from the Executive Committee appointed at the meeting of the 19th of December last, and to receive the proposed rules and regulations of the Institution, and to enter into such resolutions thereon as might appear expedient. Lord Nelson occupied the chair. The proceedings were opened with prayer by a clergyman who, as far as we (*Record*) know, was the only one present.

The SECRETARY read the report, which stated that the Executive Committee had drawn up rules and regulations for the Institution, and they had received the sanction of the Archbishop of Canterbury and of the Bishops of London, Winchester, Oxford, Exeter, Bangor, and St. Asaph. The Committee had drawn up and circulated among the deaneries forms of petition, four in number, against the unconditional abolition of Church-rates. They had also forwarded to every rural dean and master of an endowed school a form of petition against Mr. Dillwyn's Bill for the secularisation of the endowed schools of this kingdom. The Institution had forwarded 222 petitions to Parliament against Church-rate abolition, bearing 7,346 signatures, but altogether there had been presented 3,763 petitions, bearing 126,312 signatures, almost all of whom were ratepayers. This had been done as against fifty-six petitions bearing 5,144 signatures for the abolition.

Earl Nelson said, that in consequence of the report that had appeared in the papers of their last meeting, much misunderstanding had existed with regard to their intentions. The noble lord dwelt with special emphasis on the "no party" character of the Institution—a sentiment which was applauded by the audience, and repeatedly touched upon by succeeding speakers.

The adoption of the report and rules was moved by Mr. Bingley, and seconded by Mr. Bell. To show how much the feelings of the clergy had been consulted in the rules, it was pointed out that no layman could become a member of the Institution unless he had the sanction of his clergyman. The Central Council of Lay Consultees are to be elected by the clergy, and whatever the views of the clergy might be, they could appoint representatives. If they did not do so, it would be their fault, not that of the Institution. Such a thing as "party" was never to be mentioned, except to deprecate it.

The following are the rules of the Institution:—

I. That the objects of the Institution shall be to combine, as far as possible, Churchmen of every shade of political and religious opinion in the maintenance and support of the Established Church, and its rights and privileges in relation to the State,—particularly as regards all questions affecting its welfare, likely to become the subject of Legislative action; and generally to encourage the co-operation of clergy and laity, in their several districts, for the promotion of measures conducive to the welfare of the Church.

II. That no question touching doctrine shall be entertained at any meeting.

III. That the Institution shall embrace all clergymen in communion with the Church of England; and all laymen appointed by the several Cathedral, Collegiate, Ruridecanal, or District Chapters, contributing annually to the funds of the central Institution, or of their respective local branches.

IV. That for the purposes of this Institution that portion of the Diocese of London which is not situated within a rural deanery, shall be divided into districts of convenient size, to be designated in these rules as "Metropolitan Districts."

V. That the clergy of each rural deanery, division of deanery, and metropolitan districts, shall be requested to meet annually in chapter between Michaelmas and Christmas (under episcopal sanction, if possible) for the appointment of laymen resident therein, with whom the clergy may from time to time consult, and of representatives at the Central Council, and of ordinary members, who shall be Churchmen interested in the objects of this Institution, and contributing annually to its funds.

The affairs of the Institution are to be conducted by a Central Council and an Executive Committee. It is to be essentially a lay body. It was stated that the Bishop of London had given his assent to the division of London diocese into electoral districts.

After the adoption of the rules (which led to a lengthened discussion) some resolutions of a business character were carried, giving occasion to speeches by Sir Walter James, the Earl of Dartmouth, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dale, Mr. Hoare (the banker), Mr. Beresford Hope, and others, the question of "no party" being a prominent topic.

TAMWORTH MAGISTRATES AND CHURCH-RATES.

(From a Correspondent.)

On Friday, February 24, Mr. Whitmore, a Dissenter, was summoned before T. Bramall, S. P. Wolfuston, and J. Peel, Esqs., for non-payment of

1l. 1s. 9d., the amount at which he was assessed in the Church-rate. The warden having made his complaint, the defendant served on the magistrates a notice of objections to the validity of the rate, which had been prepared by the defendant's attorney. The objections were, that the rate when made was not based upon the balance in hand, and to arise—about 70l.—from the last preceding rate; also that the rate contained an item of 5l. 5s. for visitation fees, and other illegal items; and also that the rate is illegal, unequal, and unjust, by reason that a large proportion of the property in the parish was not rated.

The churchwarden was examined by the magistrates on these objections, and he disposed of all of them except the visitation fees, by saying they were not true, though it is notorious that the rate was made without any reference to the 70l. balance arising from the last preceding rate, and that the Rev. T. Burgess told the vestry at the time that the rate so made could not be legal, and that ninety-nine out of a hundred of the small tenement occupiers have not been called upon for years for the rate. The warden told a pitiful tale of the difficulties he met with in collecting the rate, naming certain ratepayers who refused to pay. After hearing the case the court was cleared. On coming into court again, the defendant was further questioned about the arrears. Bench: "Did you pay your last rate?" Defendant: "No." A magistrate, in an angry tone, said: "You became a defaulter, and now object to pay because defaulters have refused to pay." Bench: "We do not regard your objections as *bona fide* objections. Do you still refuse to pay?" Defendant: "I do. I have given you my objections, and I shall not pay." The court was again cleared. On coming into court again the magistrates said: "We have made an order for you to pay your rate." Defendant: "I shall not pay." He was then given to understand that the warden would call upon him again—(very indulgent)—and if he did not pay a distress warrant would be issued. Defendant: "You can distrain, but you will do it at your peril." Bench: "We know that, you need not tell us that."

But few can be found to approve of Dissenters being summoned for non-payment of Church-rates, and yet in Tamworth there are some Churchmen who refuse to pay until Dissenters are made to pay. This is sufficiently selfish. It is not expected that the distress will be issued. Dissenters are not afraid of it, and they are advised that theirs is a good case to meet the wardens with in an ecclesiastical court. Fortunately for Dissenters, they have hitherto escaped payment through the invalidity of the rate. True, the escape subjects them to a vast amount of annoyance, and not a little expense; but they would rather endure both than compromise their principles.

THE RELIGIOUS DISSENSIONS IN ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.

On Saturday evening Mr. W. J. Thompson, the senior churchwarden, entered the church, acting upon imperative orders he had received from the Bishop of London. He took with him three carpenters, who, upon his instructions, removed the crosses from the altar, and also the drapery which has given so much offence to the parishioners. At Sunday's service, therefore, the altar was completely denuded of its High Church furniture, all the crosses and inscriptions had gone, and the choristers' seats, or, what is now understood to be "the quasi chancel," were swept away. Against this attack upon what Mr. King has hitherto held to be essential to the performance of divine service, he simply protested, and on Sunday morning his curate and choristers took up places within the rails of the communion table, the rev. rector himself ascending the reading-desk, which for some years past has been disused, except for the lessons, which have generally been read by a layman. The morning sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Dove, the curate, who selected for his text the 39th chapter of the book of Genesis, verse 9. In the afternoon the sermon was preached by the Rev. Thomas Richardson, the newly-elected lecturer, and at its close a large body of persons remained in the church. Mr. Thompson ordered these persons to leave, and upon their refusal to do so threatened to give them into the custody of the police. Thus the church was cleared, and so it remained until half-past six, when it was re-opened. By a quarter before seven it was densely crowded, the police forming the more conspicuous part of the congregation. As in the morning, the police and choristers were obliged to take refuge within the altar rails, with the exception of the Rev. Bryan King, who, with a young layman, habited in a surplice, entered the reading-desk. Mr. King intoned the prayers, the youthful layman reading the lessons in a style which, though undoubtedly well intentioned, was apparently very irreverent. So, at least, the congregation seemed to think, for they coughed nearly the whole time the Scripture was being read to them. Mr. King was listened to throughout with respectful attention. The preacher of the evening was the Rev. John Henry Ashley Gibson, M.A., of Clare College, Cambridge, curate of St. Barnabas, Pimlico. He selected for his text the 91st Psalm, verse 7, "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee." He spoke very freely of the devil, whose operations, he remarked, were unparalleled for their dexterity, and unceasing in their perseverance. He added that God had done all in his power to warn the people against this tempter of souls. This was followed by loud coughing and a very serious disturbance in the body of the church, and the remainder of the sermon was very indis-

tinctly heard. When Mr. Gibson left the pulpit Mr. King pronounced the blessing from the altar, and the priests and choristers moved to the vestry-room. The congregation, who were evidently bent on stopping, struck up the doxology, and the organist played with tremendous vigour, in order to drown their voices. As soon as the congregation stopped singing the organist desisted from playing, and this sort of amusement between the contending parties was kept up for nearly an hour. During a portion of the proceedings the church was in total darkness, all the lights having been put out, but it was lighted again by the direction of the police, who apprehended danger, the church being thronged the whole time—the congregation singing the doxology and the organist playing in the dark. After the lapse of an hour a large body of extra policemen entered the church, and very soon effected a clearance. The enthusiastic protesters against High Church practices, determined not to have their amusement spoiled, assembled opposite the rector's house, and again sang the doxology without the interruption of the organist; and, being turned away from this spot, continued their vocal efforts in Cannon-street-road until they were fairly tired out. Mr. King has commenced an action against Mr. Herbert, the chief constable of the parish, in the Court of Common Pleas, for trespass. He has also caused five other persons to be served with writs. Under these circumstances there appears to be very little hope that the excitement which has so long prevailed in this unfortunate parish will be abated.

THE ANNUITY-TAX.

A deputation on the Annuity-tax Bill, Edinburgh and Deaneries of the Chapel Royal, had an interview with Lord Palmerston on Friday. The deputation consisted of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Mr. Robert Johnson, and Mr. R. S. Grieves (magistrates of Edinburgh).

On Thursday night, a large and earnest meeting of the Edinburgh Society in connexion with the Religious Liberation Society of London, was held in Queen-street Rooms, Duncan M'Laren, Esq., in the chair. A report was read by Mr. M'Ewan, advocate, giving an account of the proceedings of a deputation to London, consisting of himself and Mr. Archibald Young, and of their interviews with the Lord Advocate, Sir William Dunbar, Mr. Black, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Caird, &c., &c. The deputation spoke in the strongest terms of the interest manifested in their mission by several English and Irish members, and especially by Mr. Caird, member for the Stirling Burghs, whose desire to co-operate in every way was beyond all praise. Mr. William Duncan, who had been in London, also reported what he knew publicly of the state of matters; as did also the chairman from correspondence with M.P.'s and others. The purport of the whole was that, while the Lord Advocate might grant certain concessions in the way of making the fifteen years of the tax its limit, and even might consider favourably a plan to reduce it to 4d. per pound in perpetuity,—and while the Conservatives, instigated probably by the two city ministers, presently in London, and indefatigably watching the interests of the clergy, would prefer a tax on property to one on tenancy,—these were all subjects of conversation and conjecture rather than of compromise, and the whole object seemed to be to get the bill read a second time without a division, on the supposition that concessions would be made in committee. The meeting, after long and anxious deliberation, unanimously resolved to offer every opposition to the bill,—and with this view to induce the Government to withdraw it; failing which, to compel a division on the second reading. Two Scotch members of great influence have agreed to move and second an amendment, that the bill be thrown out. The most energetic resistance was counselled, and the Liberation Society of London, whose services have been so efficient on the Church-rates and other similar questions, are to offer the measure their most strenuous opposition. A cordial vote of thanks was given to the deputation, to Mr. Caird, and to the chairman, after which the meeting separated.—*Scottish Press*.

AN ALLEGED RELIGIOUS IMPOSTOR.

(From the *Suffolk Chronicle*.)

A person calling himself the Rev. W. L. Evans, Baptist minister, Llanwrin, Montgomeryshire, North Wales, has (says a correspondent) recently visited Hadleigh and the neighbourhood (and is supposed to be still in the county), collecting subscriptions on behalf of the chapel with which he says he is connected. He is a stout man, about sixty years of age, 5 ft. 9 in. in height, sallow complexion, and rather shabbily attired in a brownish paletot-coat and dark-coloured trowsers, stoops slightly in walking, carries a walking-stick, and wears a low-crowned hat; in his address he is fluent and confident, and is evidently well acquainted with the locality from which he professes to come. In several instances he was successful in obtaining sums of money, but suspicion being awakened by his appearance, and from the fact that he had no testimonials whatever from Llanwrin, or from the neighbouring ministers, and as he mentioned the name of the Rev. Josiah Jones (the Independent minister who preaches there every Sabbath) as one who knew him well, a letter was written to that gentleman, from whom the following reply has been received:—

My dear Sir,—In reply to your note which I received from you yesterday, I must say that I not aware that I know any minister whatever bearing the name of W. L. Evans; and am sure that I do not know any minister bearing that name at Llanwrin. I have shown your letter to the Baptist friends in this town to know whe-

ther they know anything about such a person, and they tell me that a person bearing that name has been playing the impostor before in other parts; and they are sure that the person you write about is an impostor too. They tell me, also, that the description you give of the person who has been visiting you well corresponds with the impostor above-mentioned. As to myself, though I have been preaching once a Sunday at Llanwrin for the last six years, nearly, yet I have never heard that such a person existed in the neighbourhood before, neither is there a Baptist chapel within some miles of the spot.

I remain, dear Sir, yours, &c.,
JOSIAH JONES.

Machynlleth, Montgomeryshire, March 5th, 1860.

PROPOSED BRIBE TO HUNGARIAN PROTESTANTS.

The following is an extract from a letter dated Pesth, March 2nd, that appears in the *Daily News* :—

Count Thun, the Minister of Public Worship and Instruction, has set his heart upon carrying his notorious plan for the organisation of the Protestant Church in Hungary. Not satisfied with the very questionable honour of having signed the concordat with the Pope against the wishes of the immense majority of the Roman Catholic laity and priesthood, he wishes to force his obnoxious organisation upon the reluctant Protestants. At first he believed that the opposition against it proceeds exclusively from political grounds, and is fanned by the party of the so-called old Conservatives; therefore he thought that political prosecution might deter the leaders of the Conservatives from making speeches in the meetings of the districts and taking the lead of the agitation. The case of M. Zsedenyi, however, soon satisfied Count Thun that prison has no terrors for men of a strong conviction; the late imperial counsellor had no word of apology before the judges, and refused to crave for mercy at the doors of the Ministers. This punishment did not prevent the defiance meetings of the districts, and the interview with the deputation headed by Baron Vay could not fail to impress the Count with the conviction that all his threats will not lead the Protestants to submission. He is now abandoning his fruitless policy of bullying, which only increased the agitation; we do not hear that he resents the obstinate resistance of all the Calvinists and of the majority of the Lutherans; his order in council threatening the recalcant congregations, seniorates, and districts with the loss of their corporate rights, seems to be suspended for all practical purpose, though it has not been formally modified or cancelled. But the Minister has evidently no intention to give up his plan of organisation, which restricts publicity, and practically annuls the liberty of election, by making the confirmation of the elections by the political authorities necessary for their validity; he only changes his tactics, and now tries to bribe the Protestants into submission. Well aware that the Protestant Church subsists on the voluntary contributions and bequests of her members, and that the clergy in general, and even the superintendents, are poorly paid, he now sets aside 94,000 florins a year (about 9,000*l.*) for the use of the Protestant Church, equally divided between the 800,000 Lutherans and 2,000,000 Calvinists—since the latter are more obstinate, they get less of the subvention—to better the condition of the clergy. The superintendents of Pesth, Presburg, Oldenburg, and Debreczin, are to get a subvention of 4,000 florins a year, those of Eperies, Szarvas, New Verbasz, Komorn, Papa, Sarospatlak, and New Szivacs, 3,000 florins, and each senior 300 florins a year. Of course this Government subvention will be paid only to those seniorates and districts which shall have accepted the ministerial organisation, and will be withheld from the recusants. A certain time is allowed for the working of this measure, and if it prove ineffectual the Minister may resort again to bullying. The Protestants are thus placed in an awkward dilemma; ministerial favour and ready money on one side if they give up the principle of an autonomic organisation of the church and place themselves under the direction of the Jesuit ministry of public worship, and the loss of their corporate rights on the other side, persecution and martyrdom, if they remain true to themselves. The eyes of all Hungary are turned now to them, and though it cannot be expected that some poorer congregations should not be caught by the ministerial bait, it seems certain that the Calvinist Church remains firm, and that the majority of the Lutherans will not be reduced to a minority.

HOUSE TO HOUSE CANVASSING.—We understand that the Churchmen of Croydon are canvassing from house to house for signatures to petitions in favour of Church-rates. This is the case in other towns also, and it is an example that cannot be too quickly imitated by our friends.

THE MARKET HARBOUR CHURCH-RATE CASE.—On Monday last, Mr. W. Buswell, cabinet-maker, was served with a citation to appear in the Bishop's Court at Northampton, to answer a charge preferred against him by the churchwardens, of refusing to pay a Church-rate, the validity of which is disputed. We understand that at a meeting of Mr. Buswell's friends the same evening, it was resolved to support him in the action, and about 500*l.* was immediately guaranteed to meet the expenses.

REFUSAL OF A RATE AT LOWDHAM.—The village of Lowdham has to be added to the list of those places which have anticipated the abolition of Church-rates, by taking the law into their own hands. At a recent vestry meeting, upon the motion for a Church-rate of 2*d.* in the pound being duly proposed and seconded, an amendment was moved by Mr. Goodacre, which was seconded by Mr. Faulkes, "That the vestry do now adjourn to this day twelve months." This amendment the chairman refused to put to the meeting, and a protest was accordingly entered against this irregular proceeding. Attention was drawn to the excessive amount of the rate (the sum actually required being under 12*l.*), whilst a 2*d.* rate would produce 60*l.* Another amendment was then moved by Mr. J.

Faulkes, and seconded by Mr. Whitworth, "That this meeting declines to make any rate, and requests the churchwardens to propose some other mode of obtaining the necessary funds." This amendment was put by the chairman, and carried by an overwhelming majority, 110 voting for it, and only 9 against it. A poll was then demanded by Mr. Abbott, one of the churchwardens, but subsequently withdrawn. The victory of the anti-rate party was complete and satisfactory.

THE PASTORS' RETIRING FUND.—Contributions to this valuable fund are steadily increasing. Mr. John Morley, of Clapton, has been nominated the treasurer at a meeting of the subscribers, and has accepted the office.—*Patriot*.

CHARGE OF HERESY AGAINST A CLERGYMAN.—On Tuesday, the 6th instant, the charge of heresy against the Rev. D. Heath, Vicar of Brading, Isle of Wight, made its first appearance in the Court of Arches. The counsel for the defendant opposed the admission of the articles as they at present stood, on the ground that, although they contained long extracts from the sermons complained of, they did not state the particular article or articles to which those extracts were alleged to be repugnant, and did not indicate any heretical doctrine which they were supposed to have maintained. Dr. Lushington ruled that it was incumbent upon the party proceeding to refer to the specific articles of religion to which Mr. Heath's doctrines were said to be contradictory. He should, therefore, refer the articles back to the learned counsel, in order that they might state, as far as they could, the articles to which they thought Mr. Heath's doctrine was contradictory. But it would be impossible for the Court, in discussing the question, what was the true doctrine of the Church of England, not to travel into the whole body of the articles if it thought fit. The task of extracting from the mass of sermons published by Mr. Heath the particular doctrine which was supposed to be contrary to the doctrine of the Church of England would be a task of so much difficulty that he doubted whether any counsel, however able, could succeed in accomplishing it in a satisfactory manner.

THE NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATURE AND THE STATE-AID QUESTION.—On the 13th of December a debate arose in the Assembly on a motion to place a sum on the Estimates for the support of chaplains on the gold-fields, which opened up the whole question of State-aid to religion. The Ministers, who are pledged antagonists to religious endowments, opposed the motion, which, they contended, was adverse to the deliberate opinion of a majority of the people, as expressed by the withdrawal by the late Assembly of 14,000*l.* of the support formerly given by the State to religion. The motion was negatived by a majority of 28 to 23.

REMARKABLE DONATION.—News has been received from Bombay, of a contribution of 5,000 rupees, to be distributed amongst four Missionary Societies labouring in China, from a late inspector of opium, in the Malwa district, being part of the proceeds of his former employment, which he had resigned in consequence of conscientious objections at having been connected with supplying the Chinese with so pernicious a drug.

Religious Intelligence.

THE SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICES.—The usual theatres were opened for public preaching on Sunday. The ministers announced to take the several services were as follows:—Standard, the Rev. H. Stowell Brown, of Liverpool, in the evening. Pavilion, Rev. E. G. Arnold, rector of Stapleford, in the evening. Garrick, Rev. A. Reed, minister of Bedford New Town Chapel, in the afternoon; Rev. R. Bushell, (United Free Wesleyans), in the evening. Victoria, Rev. H. Stowell Brown, in the afternoon; and Rev. T. Nolan, incumbent of Regent-square Church, in the evening. Sadler's Wells, Rev. E. G. Arnold, in the afternoon; Rev. H. B. Ingram, Congregational minister, in the evening. Britannia, Rev. F. Tucker (Baptist), in the evening. At Exeter Hall, the sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Cohen, chaplain of the City Prison, Holloway. The preacher for St. Paul's was the Rev. J. W. Reeve, minister of Portman Chapel, and for Westminster Abbey, the Dean of Ely. Mr. Brownlow North preached at St. James's Hall.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the members of the West Branch of this Association was held on Tuesday evening at St. James's Hall. Mr. George Moore (Moore, Crampton, and Co.) presided, and a number of ministers were on the platform. The report stated that the Bible-classes were held regularly, and that a class for young women had been formed. The work of tract distribution had also been perseveringly carried on. Lectures were given once a-month, and were well attended. During the last year 644*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* had been received, and 708*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* expended. There was a total deficiency of 136*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*, for which the committee appealed to the friends of the society. Mr. Moore heartily sympathised with the association, and expressed a hope that the deficiency referred to in the report would soon be made up. He did not think employers had done their duty with regard to the society, and this remark applied especially to the large business houses at the West-end. Mr. Bowker, secretary to the society, gave an explanation of the plan of operations pursued, and invited those present to attend the meetings held periodically. Mr. C. E. Mudie thought the association would be the means of fitting young men for the exercise of their duties, by imparting the most useful kind of

knowledge. This knowledge, moreover, was disseminated without regard to denominational distinctions. He repudiated the idea that such societies made young men pharisaical or melancholy. On the contrary, he contended that the influence exercised by them was most useful and beneficial. (Cheers.) To employers the association was one of incalculable utility. The Rev. W. Brook said the title of their association indicated their object and dignified it. They desired not to be latitudinarian on the one hand nor intolerant on the other. He exhorted the meeting to take care that their Christianity was not a thing of geographical accident, but of individual feeling. That Christianity was good for nothing, would not bear the rough usage of the world, which was founded upon mere technicalities. Doctrine must be the foundation of practice—ability to argue and contend was of no importance. The Rev. Walter Edmonds then addressed the meeting. Mr. Brownlow North commended the young men present not to make riches or honour the end of their ambition, but those ends which the association was formed to further. They must expect to make sacrifices; but these would be repaid. The Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel gave a short and practical address to the assembly, and several other gentlemen followed. A collection was afterwards made in aid of the funds of the association.

ENTERTAINMENT TO THE POOR.—AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE.—A very interesting meeting was held in the school-rooms belonging to Clayland's Chapel, Kennington, on Monday evening last, presided over by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A. Between 200 and 300 of the poor from the district visited by the excellent City missionary (Mr. Riddle) were present, having been specially invited to meet Mr. Brown and some of the ladies and gentlemen connected with the chapel. After regaling themselves at an excellent tea, with an ample supply of plum cake, Mr. Brown, after a few words of hearty welcome to his auditors, gave a short account of his visit to Naples, and the island and grotto of Capri, in the spring of last year. He also read some racy poems from the well-known Lancashire poet Wallace. Some interesting experiments on the air-pump were given by Mr. Houlder. Mr. H. Doulton read Thomas Hood's "Trumpet." A short address was delivered by Mr. H. R. Ellington, and an impressive appeal having been made by the City missionary, the proceedings were brought to a close. Many, however, still lingered to inspect some geological specimens kindly presented by a gentleman who attended, and explained their characters and value. Several stereoscopes also afforded both amusement and instruction. The effect of the meeting was evidently most salutary, and as the guests returned to their homes of poverty and suffering, many would feel that they were not so entirely without sympathy as the poor of our great cities are too often tempted (perhaps sometimes truly) to think.

THE REV. W. H. AYLEN, B.A., has resigned his pastoral duties at Carlisle Chapel, Kennington, in consequence of ill health, and is about to travel through the south and north of Europe.

THE THEATRE ROYAL, GUILDFORD, was opened for divine service on Sunday afternoon last, the Rev. John Jones, Independent minister, officiating. This is the first of a series of special services, and has, we understand, proved quite a success.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.—A large and interesting social meeting of the congregation and friends of Athol-street Congregational Church was held in the Wellington Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 21st. About 400 sat down to tea. After tea, interesting addresses were delivered on the religious aspects and prospects of the present day by the Rev. John Chater (pastor), Rev. Messrs. Fletcher, Oates (Wesleyan), McKenzie, Cleland, and Murdoch (Presbyterian). The friends of the Congregational interest in Douglas have reason for congratulation on the increased prosperity of the past year.

BELFAST NEW INDEPENDENT CHURCH.—On Thursday this neat and elegant church was formally opened for public worship by the Rev. George Smith, of London, the secretary of the Congregational Union. The attendance at both services was large and respectable. At twelve o'clock Mr. Smith opened the service by offering up a dedicatory prayer. The Rev. Mr. Bagley then gave out the 100th Psalm, after which he read a portion of Scripture. The Rev. Mr. Smith again prayed, and afterwards took as his text Isaiah xxvii. 15, from which he preached a very able, lucid, and eloquent sermon. After the morning sermon a collection was taken up in aid of the building fund. The service was closed by the Rev. Mr. Corken, of Carrickfergus, engaging in prayer. In the evening the service was held at seven o'clock, when the Rev. Mr. Bagley opened with singing, and read a portion of Scripture. The Rev. Mr. Craig, of Armagh, then engaged in prayer; after which the Rev. Mr. Smith proceeded to preach from Col. i. 14. At the conclusion of his sermon, the rev. gentlemen expressed his strong desire that there should be a hearty and thorough union between the Independents of England and Belfast. A collection was afterwards taken up. The amount received at both services was about 60*l.*

MARGATE.—On Tuesday, February 28, the memorial stone of a new Congregational chapel in this town was laid by Eusebius Smith, Esq., of London. The friends first met in the Assembly-rooms. After singing, the Rev. Mr. Moore, the pastor of the church, announced that the Rev. G. Smith, of Poplar, being unavoidably absent, the Rev. H. Cresswell, of Canterbury, would deliver the address, prior to the laying of the stone. Mr. Cresswell accordingly spoke of the civil and religious liberties which we now enjoy, as compared with the past. A hymn was then sung, and the Rev. H. J. Bevis,

of Ramsgate, offered an appropriate prayer. The assembly then adjourned to the building, the builder, architect, building committee, ministers, and friends walking in procession to the spot. A hymn was sung, and some passages of Scripture read suitable to the occasion. Eusebius Smith, Esq., then proceeded to lay the memorial stone. When he had completed the ceremony, the Rev. Mr. Moore presented him with a silver trowel, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Eusebius Smith, Esq., on laying the memorial stone of the New Congregational Chapel, Margate, February 28, 1860." Mr. Smith, in the course of his response, congratulated Mr. Moore on the proceedings of that auspicious day, and said he had no doubt the building which was being erected would be a blessing to Margate and its visitors. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Hillier, of Sandwich, and the service concluded. In the evening nearly 500 persons sat down to tea in the Assembly-rooms. After tea there was a public meeting at which there were upwards of 800 people. Eusebius Smith, Esq., took the chair. After a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Turner, of Ashford, the Chairman delivered a forcible and practical speech. The Rev. J. H. Wilson, of London, also addressed the meeting in a lively and earnest speech. The Rev. W. Turner and John Finch, Esq., also spoke. The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Revs. Dr. Hillier, H. J. Bevis, Mr. Lummis, H. Cresswell, and G. C. Smith. The Rev. Mr. Moore said, in looking round he could see members of every section of the Christian Church in Margate, and he could not but take their presence there, and their many happy and smiling faces, as indications of the sincere interest they felt in the erection of a new Congregational chapel in Margate. As for him, while he held conscientiously his own distinctive views of Church-government, he wished "good speed" to all. He said that Mr. Eusebius Smith had given a second contribution of 20l., and had made a similar offer to that of Mr. Finch, to take one debenture for every nine which Mr. Moore obtained. (This announcement was received with cheers.) Mr. Moore further announced that he had already obtained twenty debentures in his own congregation, and that several contributions had been handed to him that evening. The usual votes of thanks were then moved.

PARIS.—A *soirée* of the Rev. John Shedlock's congregation was held in the chapel, 180, Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, on Friday evening, March 9, 1860. The object of the meeting was to testify to Mr. Shedlock the personal regard of his congregation towards him, to present to their beloved minister a piece of plate as an expression of their gratitude for his disinterested and valuable services, and especially to induce him, if possible, to alter his intention respecting leaving Paris. After tea, provided and superintended by the ladies of the congregation, D. Birch, Esq., M.D., was called to the chair. The business of the evening commenced by singing and prayer. The chairman then presented to Mr. Shedlock, in the name of the congregation, a memorial numerously signed and an elegant silver salver. Mr. Shedlock then addressed the meeting in a manner befitting the interesting occasion. Several gentlemen, among whom were the Rev. Dr. Keason, Hon. A. Fitzroy, Mr. Didsbury, and Mr. Dyke, made brief and interesting speeches, the burden of which was to persuade Mr. Shedlock to reconsider his determination of resigning his charge and leaving the city. The Rev. R. Ashton, of London, then spoke on the desirableness of English Independency having a location in Paris; on the necessity of securing a more eligible situation for public worship, and the importance of the friends taking such steps as the case may demand with a view to a more permanent establishment of Congregational worship in the metropolis of France. In the course of the evening an elegant bronze statue was presented by Mr. Ashton, in the name of the friends, to Mr. John Shedlock for his kind and voluntary services as organist during the five years that the chapel had been occupied for English service.

THE REFORM BILL.—PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

In committee, Mr. Edwin James intends to move that the franchise be extended to the occupiers, upon certain conditions, of portions of houses as sub-tenants or lodgers; and also that the payment of rates on or before a particular day shall no longer be the condition of registration.

Mr. Hennessy is to move, on the second reading of the Irish Bill:—"That it appears to this House that the scheme contemplated by her Majesty's Government does not adequately provide for the representation of the agricultural classes in Ireland."

Notice of the following motion has been given by Mr. Baxter:—"That it be an instruction to the committee on Representation of the People Bill, to include in Schedule (A), in addition to boroughs containing fewer than 7,000 inhabitants, all those not containing more than 8,000—viz., Chipping, Wycombe, Lichfield, Cocker-mouth, Bridport, Bridgnorth, and Malton, in order that, without increasing the numbers of the House, Hartlepool and West Bromwich should be added to Schedule (B) as returning one member each, and that means should be afforded for providing a second member for the counties of Lanark and Ayr, and the boroughs of Dundee and Aberdeen."

MR. COBDEN has addressed a letter to the town clerk of Rochdale, acknowledging the highly complimentary resolutions recently adopted by the town council of that borough. Mr. Cobden states, that he hopes to resume his Parliamentary duties during the first week in April.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday Earl de Grey and Ripon took the oaths on his succession to the earldom of De Grey. The Earl of Eglintoun took the oaths on his elevation to a British earldom under that title, having formerly sat as Baron Ardrossan.

Lord CHELMSFORD presented a petition from 20,000 tradesmen of London against Sunday trading. The noble and learned lord was understood to give notice of his intention to introduce a bill on the subject next week.

Lord TEYNHAM gave notice that he would bring on his motion with regard to the ballot on Monday the 19th inst.

The Earl of CORK presented a petition from the Dissenters of Frome, praying for the total abolition of Church-rates.

Various petitions were presented in favour of Church-rates.

THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE, in reply to a question from Lord Carnarvon, said that, although much private correspondence had passed relative to the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France, between Lord Cowley and Lord J. Russell, that private correspondence would not at all alter the case, as it had been already laid before Parliament. Parliament had a complete detail of all that had taken place on the subject.

Lord NORMANBY denounced the practice of corresponding privately upon such important questions. Lord GREY considered that if a principle of private correspondence between the Foreign Secretary and her Majesty's ambassadors was once adopted, it would deprive Parliament of its control over important public questions. Lord WODEHOUSE defended the course pursued by Lord J. Russell and Lord Cowley. Lord MALMESBURY thought the Foreign Secretary ought to lay all correspondence, whether public or private, upon questions of such importance before Parliament. Such was the course he (Lord Malmesbury) had pursued when Foreign Secretary, and it would have been more satisfactory if Lord John Russell had not deviated from that practice.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said there could be no desire to conceal anything from Parliament; if there had been, Parliament would not have been informed that any private correspondence on the subject had taken place.

Lord DERBY thought a third party was interested in this case—namely, the French Minister. He pointed out the various phases which the question had assumed since July last, and considered it preposterous, after the conversations with the French Minister, for the Government to pretend that the whole matter had come upon them by surprise; the private correspondence ought not to have been suppressed.

After a few words from the Duke of ARGYLL, the subject dropped.

QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.

On the motion of Lord TEYNHAM, the second reading of this bill was postponed.

TUSCANY.

On Friday the Marquis of NORMANBY moved for a copy of any instructions addressed by the Secretary of State to her Majesty's *chargé d'affaires* at Florence, directing him to impress upon the provisional Government the duty of abstaining from any arbitrary acts calculated to destroy all freedom of action in connexion with those fresh elections which her Majesty's Government had thought proper to recommend. He urged that the Ministry had made themselves parties to the elections, and had actively interfered in the affairs of Italy. He proceeded to denounce the arbitrary acts of the Tuscan Government, and particularly dwelt upon the imprisonment of Signor Casagnari, a letter from whose wife he read to the House, and wished to know whether Mr. Corbett had been instructed to object to such proceedings.

Lord WODEHOUSE said that, as no such papers were in existence, they could not be laid upon the table of the House. He denounced the practice of discussing in detail the policy of foreign Governments, and assured the House that her Majesty's Government had not departed from the policy of non-intervention which they had laid down as their rule. Proceeding to defend the policy of Lord John Russell as put forth in his despatches to Mr. Corbett, and of the accuracy of the information supplied by Mr. Corbett, who under very difficult circumstances had discharged his duty remarkably well, he said that her Majesty's Government were not responsible for these elections, and had not interfered in any way in them. He then explained the general policy pursued by her Majesty's Government, detailed the steps which had been taken by Mr. Corbett to obtain the release of Signor Casagnari, and contradicted, by accurate information received from Mr. Corbett, the exaggerated statements of Lord Normanby, that hundreds and thousands had been arrested by the Provisional Government. The fact was, that considering the state of the Tuscan Government, exposed as it was to plots from reactionists and revolutionists, it had behaved with great moderation, as, in spite of plots discovered and persons apprehended, only forty-nine persons had been condemned to imprisonment since October last. In regard to the state of Milan he read a document addressed to Sir J. Hudson by the municipality of Milan, contradicting the extraordinary statements made by Lord Normanby on a former occasion in the House of Lords, expressing

surprise that statements so utterly unfounded should have been made, and asserting that never was Milan in so satisfactory a condition as at present.

After some remarks from Lords CLANRICARDE and DENMAN,

Lord MALMESBURY said he could not sufficiently deprecate any intervention of this country in the affairs of Italy. The elections about to take place in Tuscany would only render discussion upon them a waste of time.

The Duke of ARGYLL stated that the course pursued by her Majesty's Government was to support the Italian people in choosing their own Government. He could not recognise the assumption that because we were neutral in the war we should be indifferent in the settlement of Italian affairs, and pointed out the course which Lord Malmesbury had pursued in Italian affairs when he was in office, which, while he (the Duke of ARGYLL) considered it the right course, was certainly not one of absolute non-interference.

Lord MALMESBURY could not agree that the policy he had formerly adopted was identical with that of the present Government. He had endeavoured to prevent a war, but the present Government, by thwarting the conditions of the peace of Villafranca, had brought about those very difficulties from which they might otherwise have escaped.

After a few words from Lord NORMANBY the motion was withdrawn, and

Their lordships adjourned at twenty-five minutes to eight o'clock.

On Monday the Administration of Poisons Bill passed through committee, and the Medical Acts Amendment Bill was read a second time.

A conference having taken place with the Commons on the subject of the address to the Crown approving of the treaty with France, Lord TAUNTON gave notice that he would on Thursday move a similar address to the Crown. After a conversation on the subject of the article relating to shipping, which the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH complained was not sufficiently clear, the subject dropped, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past six.

At the early part of the sitting, the Royal Assent was given by commission to the Consolidated Fund Bill, and the Marriages (Rydal Mount) Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday the second reading of the Registration of Voters Bill was moved, but, after some discussion, withdrawn, on the understanding that the subject was under the consideration of the Government.

The Public Improvements Bill passed through committee.

CORONERS BILL.

Mr. CORBETT moved the second reading of the Coroners Bill, which provides that coroners shall be paid by salaries instead of fees, the salaries to be regulated by the test of area and population. Mr. E. JAMES moved as an amendment to leave out from the word "that" to the end of the question, in order to add the words, "a select committee be appointed to consider the state of the law and practice as regards the taking of inquisitions in cases of death, and the remuneration now paid to coroners; and whether it is expedient that any, and what, alteration should be made in the manner in which such remuneration is now made; and to consider the effect and operation of the statutes now in force upon that subject; and to report thereupon to the House." Sir G. C. LEWIS opposed the bill. He had on the paper a bill of his own, which he thought the House would consider fair and reasonable, and worthy of being accepted. After some debate, Sir G. C. Lewis consenting to refer his bill also to a select committee, the amendment was agreed to, and the second reading postponed.

WAYS AND MEANS.

In committee of ways and means, on the motion of Mr. LAING, the following resolution was agreed to:—"That towards making good the supply granted to her Majesty, the sum of 4,500,000l. be granted out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland."

On the report on the Customs Acts, the resolutions relating to the new duties on timber were agreed to.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to four o'clock.

NAPLES.

On Thursday, Mr. T. DUNCOMBE postponed a motion which he had on the paper on the subject of the relations of this country with Naples until that day fortnight.

BIG BEN, &c.

In answer to Mr. Alderman Salomons and Mr. T. Hankey, Mr. COWPER said that the great bell in the Clock Tower was cracked in five places; he could not hold out any expectation of its solemn tones being heard again. With regard to the Nelson monument, Sir Edwin Landseer had decided on the plan for its completion, but he could not say when it would be completed, or the lions placed on the pedestal.

THE MOTION ON SAVOY.

Lord J. RUSSELL appealed to Mr. Kinglake not to bring forward his motion on the subject of Savoy, on the ground that it would be detrimental to the public service.

Mr. A. KINGLAKE assented, but stated that he was still of opinion that the question should be brought before the House. He would postpone his motion until Monday week.

THE WHITWORTH RIFLE.

In reply to Mr. C. Leigh and Mr. Turner, Mr. S. HERBERT said that Mr. Whitworth had proposed

that an attempt should be made to apply his principle to the metal used at Enfield for the purpose of manufacturing rifles, the adoption of which course would entail, according to that gentleman's own calculation, an additional cost of only 5s. per barrel. The House would not, however, fail to perceive that where a large number of rifles were to be manufactured a considerably increased expense would be thus entailed. He might add that there was no evidence to show that this principle of rifling could not be applied to the Enfield with the metal now in use; and being of that opinion, he had given directions that the experiment should be tried.

COOLIE IMMIGRATION TO THE FRENCH COLONIES.

Mr. CAVE, in moving an address for copies of correspondence between her Majesty's Government and the Government of France in respect to legalising the exportation of natives of British India as indentured labourers to French colonies, prefaced the motion by a statement and remarks strongly condemnatory of the measure, which he termed ill-advised and most unfortunate; and protested against the treaty entered into with France to carry it into effect on the ground of its injustice, on that of humanity to our Indian fellow-subjects, and because he considered it fraught with danger to our future good understanding with France.

Sir W. FARQUHAR likewise condemned the measure, calling attention to the position in which this country would be placed if the arrangements under the treaty were not carried out strictly and in good faith.

Lord J. RUSSELL, not opposing the motion, said the Government had thought that, on the whole, it was advisable to enter into negotiations with the French on this subject. The experiment of Coolie immigration to our own colonies, being well conducted, had succeeded, and precautions were taken in the treaty to prevent abuses, though he admitted that there were inconveniences and dangers in the emigration to foreign colonies which could not be entirely provided for. The motive for entering into the treaty was to put an end to the contracts for shipping negroes from the coast of Africa.

Mr. KINNAIRD stated his belief that if the people of this country had been consulted with respect to the treaty they would have expressed a strong feeling against it. He wished to know whether the sanction of the authorities in India had been obtained to the treaty, which he feared would do no good to the people under their rule, and regretted that the noble lord had not communicated more of its details to the House.

The motion was agreed to.

TREATY OF COMMERCE WITH FRANCE.

Mr. BYNG moved the following resolution:—

That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, to assure her Majesty, that, having considered the treaty of commerce concluded between her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, this House begs leave to approach her Majesty with their sincere and grateful acknowledgments for this new proof of her Majesty's desire to promote the welfare and happiness of her subjects; to assure her Majesty that we shall proceed to take such steps as may be necessary for giving effect to a system which we trust will promote a beneficial intercourse between Great Britain and France tend to the extension of trade and manufacture, and give additional security for the continuance of the blessings of peace.

After noticing the imputed faults of omission and commission in the treaty, the questions he would address to the House, he said, were, whether they believed the commercial treaty to be right in principle; whether it would conduce to the advantage of the two contracting Powers; whether by its operation our trade and commerce would be extended; whether it would cement the ties of friendship and the bonds of alliance with France; and lastly, whether they believed that it would bear the scrutiny of time and the judgment of posterity. If they answered these questions in the affirmative, he claimed their co-operation in the address.

The motion was seconded by Mr. BAINES, who showed from statistical results that our trade with France had been immeasurably below its natural dimensions, and disproportioned to that we had carried on with other nations; and he insisted upon the prospects which the treaty afforded us. The downfall of protection in this country had produced great social and political as well as commercial effects—

The dangerous complaints of class against class—of bread-eater against bread-grower—had entirely ceased—(cheers)—and they were enabled in consequence to enlarge the basis of the constitution. (Cheers.) The noble lord, the member for the city of London, received his reward for a long course of consistent patriotism, when he was able to present himself in that House, holding in one hand the treaty of commerce with France, and in the other the Reform Bill for England. (Cheers.)

He should regret if it were thought by the manufacturers of England that they had unworthy competitors in France.

They enjoyed in France the advantages of nature and art—they had sunnier skies, great knowledge of chemistry, a natural and cultivated taste, patient industry, and a prolific invention. (Cheers.) And if there should be any of the manufacturers of England so conceited as to think that they could bear away the palm, he would tell them that they might go to France and look at the productions of the French manufacturers with infinite advantage to themselves. (Cheers.) He had asked an eminent manufacturer whether he thought he should be able to send his goods to France under the duties now to be levied, and he thought he should; but it was not to be supposed that the French manufacturers would remain where they were now, but that competition would stimulate them to new exertions and greater improvements. (Hear, hear.) Hitherto the French manufacturers had not that stimulant, and that improvement had been much more rapid on the part of the British manufacturer than on their part. (Hear, hear.) In England, however, they had advantages of the most ex-

tensive kind which would enable them to compete with their rival, more ingenious, and more tasteful rivals in France. (Hear, hear.) They had, in the first place, accumulated wealth and capital, which—being charged with a lower rate of interest—was an agent of commerce and of manufactures of the greatest potency. (Cheers.) Then they had iron in the utmost abundance and of the most excellent quality. They had coal, which, with iron, formed one of the main agents of manufacturing industry. They had machinery, in which they had not yet been approached by any other country, and the mechanical inventions for which England was celebrated. (Cheers.) They had also labour of a kind the most valuable in the world. (Hear.) There was no labour equal to that of the English labourer in point of activity and endurance. They had also a principle of self-reliance on the part both of manufacturers and artisans that was not exceeded in any other country. (Hear, hear.) They had perfect freedom of commerce and of institutions, and, lastly, they had an impregnable position in the world opening to them all the ways of commerce, and protected by an invincible navy against any hostile attack. (Cheers.) He was one of those who would maintain that their navy should always be the first in the world, and should be equal to every demand that might be made upon it in defence of the honour and interests of England. (Cheers.) He believed the treaty would meet with approbation, and that they might attach to it for a motto the old and divine command, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." (Loud cheers.)

Mr. LINDSAY, who had given notice of an amendment to add to the address words praying her Majesty to adopt such measures as might appear best calculated to carry into effect the abolition of all differential duties on the trade carried on in British or French vessels between the ports of England and France, and their respective colonies and dependencies, and from port to port within those limits, said he gave his warm and hearty support to the treaty, but he called attention to its maritime bearing. He had thought at first that the third article was directed against English shipping; but he had since found that it did not alter the position of the English shipowners. He showed that the treaty conferred no benefit upon them; at the same time, he contended that France gained nothing by its restrictive policy, which was unjust to the French people. He declined, for reasons which he stated, to press his amendment on the present occasion.

Mr. PEACOCKE condemned the treaty as faulty in principle and one-sided, and the remission of duties which accompanied it. Mr. CLAY supported the motion. The treaty, he said, found great favour in Hull, notwithstanding that it contained no concession to the shipping interest. Mr. B. COCHRANE discussed the question of the treaty from a political point of view. He could see no advantage, he said, in a commercial treaty combined with double armaments and a spirit of mistrust and suspicion pervading the whole country. Mr. W. EWART gave his warmest support of the treaty upon two grounds—first, because it was a measure of peace, and, secondly, because it was a measure for extending commerce. Mr. MAQUIRE likewise gave his cordial support to the Treaty and to the Budget, believing that the result would not only benefit the whole United Kingdom, but would establish amicable relations between England and France. He testified to the great benefits which free trade had conferred upon Ireland, and to the advantages which would result from the treaty to the trade of Ireland. Mr. RIDLEY was sanguine as regarded the political effects of the treaty.

Lord A. VANE TEMPEST concurred in the sentiments held by Mr. Roebuck and Mr. S. Fitzgerald regarding the Emperor of the French. If he wanted reasons for opposing the resolution, he should find them, he said, in the despatches of Lord J. Russell, and he moved, as an amendment, the substitution of a resolution respectfully declining to express an opinion upon the treaty until the intentions of the Emperor of the French with respect to the annexation of Savoy should be made known to the country.

Mr. SLANEY argued that the circumstances of France and England—the former possessing valuable natural products (the vine, the olive, and the silk-worm), the latter capital—placed them in a situation to be of mutual benefit to each other by the interchange of their commodities.

Sir H. CAIRNS would regret very much if the motion of the hon. member for Middlesex were not carried.

The rejection of that motion would be the overthrow of this treaty, and he did not desire that the treaty should be overturned. (Cheers on the Ministerial benches.) If, however, his assent were held to imply that he believed this to be a treaty, wise in its details and well considered in its provisions, or such a treaty as the country required and had a right to expect, the opinion he held of the treaty would be very much misapprehended; and it was to prevent misapprehension that he would not give a silent vote on the question. (Hear, hear.)

It had been denied, he observed, that the treaty was a bargain; but, if it was not a bargain, what was the meaning of the terms in the treaty under which the validity of its stipulations depended upon the sanction of the House of Commons? His objection was that it was not only a bargain, but a very bad bargain for us. He dwelt upon the defects of the treaty in relation to our shipping and to the linen and linen yarn of Ireland, loaded with an almost prohibitory duty, expressing his doubt whether the negotiators could have had their attention directed to the subject of the linen trade. He specified other objections to the manner in which the treaty had been framed, and commented upon the spirit duty, originally fixed at 10s. per gallon, which was subsequently reduced to 8s. 2d., and he asked what con-

cession had been made by the French Government for this 1s. 10d. He contrasted the vigilance of the French negotiators of the treaty with the suppleness of ours, and, with reference to the 11th article, he observed that up to that moment the House had not had any explanation of the object of the Government in regard to that article, and he asked what right they had to surrender a power to prohibit the export of coal, possessed for political purposes, and which had no relation to commerce. Although he considered the treaty one-sided, imperfect, and halting, he supported the motion because much greater injury would be done, and greater risk incurred, by arresting it than by assenting to it, and he was not prepared to take the responsibility of defeating the treaty in that way.

Mr. M. GIBSON was glad to hear that Sir H. Cairns would throw no impediment in the way of the treaty. With regard to Irish linen, he had been assured by a deputation from the manufacturers of Belfast that they would be satisfied if they were put upon the same footing as those of Belgium, and they were to be so placed in June, 1861. In respect to coals, what could be done by international law before the treaty could be done afterwards; the non-prohibition of the export of coal was only in a commercial sense. The spirit-duty was governed by considerations relating to the Excise survey and regulations applicable to British spirits, which the difference of duty was intended to cover; and, as to shipping, he insisted that the treaty placed British shipping in a better position, and conferred upon our shipowners an important advantage. He should be glad to see, he said, all navigation-laws entirely abolished; but the restriction of the French law had but a small effect upon British shipping, and too much importance was, in his opinion, attached to such a matter.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE reviewed and enforced the objections founded upon some of the details of the treaty, disputing the theory of Mr. Gibson as to the sense of the 11th article, and contending that this article fettered our liberty of action; and this, he said, was his objection to the treaty, confessedly a clumsy one, that it tied up the hands of Parliament for ten years. The motion proposed to thank her Majesty for much more than the treaty, for financial arrangements were mixed up with the treaty. It was, therefore, impossible for him to join cordially in the motion.

Lord Tempest's amendment having been withdrawn, the debate upon the original motion was adjourned.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

On Friday, in reply to General Peel, Sir O. Wood said he had not received any accounts from India which would lead him to believe that any discontent still lingered among the Company's troops.—In reply to Mr. V. Scully, Mr. CARDWELL said that the Government did not intend to depart from the present system of national education in Ireland. If any alteration should be proposed, notice would be given.—In moving the adjournment till Monday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he proposed to compel dealers in wine and spirits in bond to take out a license (at ten guineas) similar to that now required from the public dealers.—In reply to Mr. Wise, Mr. COWPER said that Professor Faraday and Sir R. Murchison had been requested to examine and report upon the state of the new Houses of Parliament.—Mr. HALIBURTON complained of the damage which would be done to the North American colonies by the alteration of the timber duties, and of the contemptuous manner in which these interests had been treated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He wanted to know if the decision on these duties could be delayed till the colonies had time to make representations? The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER denied the charges brought against him, and said that every opportunity would be given to all members of the House for making there such representations as might have been made to them on the subject.

THE SAVOY QUESTION.

In reply to Lord A. Vane Tempest, Lord J. RUSSELL said that the correspondence between the Government and our ambassador at Paris had been transmitted to the Great Powers without producing, as yet, any further results than that the Ministers at Turin and Vienna had declared their concurrence in the view taken as to Savoy, but without stating what course they intended to pursue. The Government had not yet heard from St. Petersburg that the despatch had arrived. From Sardinia they were assured that if the annexation were put to the vote of the people of Savoy, care would be taken that it was fairly and properly put, and that the frontiers of Switzerland and Sardinia were arranged with due regard to their safety. With respect to Switzerland, the opinion of the authorities there remained unchanged.

THE BUDGET.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, referring to a question with respect to resolutions 11, 12, and 13, in the Customs Act, and resolutions 1 and 2 in Ways and Means, said that he proposed not to impose any additional duties on goods which already paid a small import duty. Foreign goods, not paying duty, he proposed to make a charge of 1d., and not to exceed 1 per cent. *ad valorem*. Transhipped goods to pay a duty of 1 per cent. Foreign goods, which would have been liable to 1d. duty per hundred pounds, to be charged on particular descriptions, 1d. per fifty pounds. On wines, a duty of 1d. on every five gallons would be imposed on those free. Imports, which had not gone into bond would be considered as belonging to the same class as British goods when exported, and he proposed to

charge them a small fee, but without description or number of packages. Corn and timber were liable to a low duty, but they did not go into bond, and they would not for the future pay the registration fee or any other charge on re-exportation. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the removal of goods, he proposed to make a considerable reduction on the present charge. The charge would not exceed more than 1d. in the pound, and in the case of tobacco it would be further reduced to ½d. per lb. He also proposed, as already stated, that 1d. should be charged, except where the stock fell short of twenty pounds. On contract notes and note dock warrants he proposed a 3d. stamp. The Chancellor of the Exchequer concluded by laying on the table resolutions embodying the proposed alteration.

THE FRENCH TREATY—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

On Friday the adjourned debate on Mr. Byng's resolution was resumed by Mr. HORSMAN, who made a vigorous attack on the treaty. It was said that by this means we should secure the friendship of France. But by the treaty we made enemies of the commercial classes, the only classes hitherto averse from war. The error arose from confounding the French Emperor with the French nation, whose views, he contended, were antagonistical. Having considered the sacrifices made on our part, he predicted that, as a commercial speculation, the treaty would fail, and then discussed its political objects, confessing his apprehensions that commercial considerations predominated too much in our political relations—

I must say that to me it is most refreshing to see the tone and language of the noble lord the present Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. (Hear, hear.) It is refreshing to me to see that there is in him the spirit of a statesman and the sound true heart of an English Minister (Hear, hear); and so far as I can gather his spirit from the perusal of his despatches, I, for one, should be well content that the honour of England should be left in his hands. (Hear, hear.) But, Sir, I cannot help feeling that the noble lord is not the whole Cabinet of England; and we have been assured upon high authority that on this as upon other occasions there may be differences of opinion. The noble lord cannot be said to be the master of the Cabinet; on the contrary, we are told that the Cabinet has another master, who is not at present in his place. (Opposition cheers.) [The hon. member looked towards the seat usually occupied by Mr. Bright, who was then absent from the House.] We have to-day seen it stated in one of the most influential journals of public opinion in France that in England there has been the age of Elizabeth, that there has been the age of Pitt, and that this is the age of my hon. friend the member for Birmingham. (A laugh.) Now, I, for one, never grudge my hon. friend any of the honours which are paid to him. If he were here, I should like to say to him that he has won them fairly. He has won them by his courage; he has won them by his earnestness even more than by his ability. He has won them by the openness and fearlessness with which he has ever advocated his opinions and his policy. (Hear, hear.) I am one of those who think that earnestness and sincerity are the first qualities of statesmanship. (Hear, hear.) And, therefore, whether or not I agree with my hon. friend in all his opinions, at least I offer him the tribute of my sincere respect; but I must be permitted to say that I have for some time past viewed with some anxiety and some apprehension, especially with regard to our foreign policy, the predominance of the commercial influence in this House. (Hear, hear.) I prize the commercial greatness of England, and I prize it not merely as a source of wealth and comfort to ourselves, but also as a great instrument of civilisation and religion, carrying the influence of England to bless the remotest corners of the globe. (Hear, hear.) But I feel that among nations as among individuals there is a more exalted code than that of self-interest; and that the commercial greatness of England, her place among the nations, her elevated attitude, and her moral grandeur, at times impose upon her duties and obligations proportioned to the space which she fills and the power which she wields.

He concluded by moving, as an amendment, to add to the resolution the following words:—

But humbly to represent to her Majesty that, in the opinion of this House, Article 11 imposes on the Crown and Legislature of the country unnecessary and impolitic restrictions to which this House cannot assent; and to pray her Majesty to effect the omission of that article from the treaty.

Mr. VIVIAN, being intimately acquainted with the South Wales coalfield, gave data from which he estimated that that field alone would be fully equal to supply England, at her present rate of consumption, for upwards of 500 years. The other coalfields in England and Scotland could furnish an almost fabulous quantity, and he thought it absurd to talk of coal being an exhaustible commodity, or of its export to France being a political consideration. He replied to other portions of Mr. Horsman's speech on this subject.

Mr. BENTINCK would rather see France and the whole of Europe at war with this country than that the treaty should be carried. ("Oh! oh!") Hon. gentlemen opposite differed from him, but he gave his opinion frankly, as he had always done. He repeated that a war with France would be less prejudicial to the interests of this country than the final ratification of this treaty. ("Oh, oh!") He hoped hon. gentlemen would not take his observations to heart; but by their tones they seemed to show that there was some force in what he said. (Laughter.)

Sir ROBERT PEEL cordially supported the treaty. Although there would be a loss of revenue under the treaty, its advantages would infinitely outweigh the sacrifice. But, while the House approved the treaty, he hoped it would express an indignant protest against the proceedings of France in relation to Savoy, which he denounced, as well as the general policy of the Emperor of the French, in terms of asperity.

It really appeared that France under the dynasty of a Napoleon was always to be a source of uneasiness and

anxiety to Europe. Occupying a magnificent position, and being blessed to satiety with all that soil and climate could give, she was yet always dissatisfied with her lot, always striving to remove her neighbour's landmarks, and to create dissensions in Europe. (Cries of "No, no.")

In conclusion, he pronounced a glowing and flattering eulogy upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer:—

Whatever might be the credit due to Mr. Cobden, he thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer had treated the subject with a compass, with a genius, and with a power rarely equalled, never excelled, in that House. (Loud and repeated cheering.) They had seen the right hon. gentleman night after night, whilst dealing with the Imperial interests of the country, show that he had made himself a perfect master of the most minute details of trade—(cheers)—and also that he was not inadequate to grapple with the concerns of every trade. (Hear, hear.) Hon. gentlemen had come down to the House prepared with dissensions of the particular trades which they represented, and they had seen the Chancellor of the Exchequer handling these subjects with an ability and intelligence quite remarkable. (Cheers.) If he might be permitted to allude to the subject, he thought the right hon. gentleman was in that House the Parliamentary representative of a policy and a system which, in 1842, was inaugurated there, with the consent and approval of the great party on the Opposition benches—(Hear, hear)—a system inaugurated by a party which his (Sir R. Peel's) father had the proud distinction of forming—(cheers)—and whatever might have been the differences and dissensions which ensued after that occasion, he thought every impartial man in the House would bear him out when he said that the policy then inaugurated would not have succeeded eventually without the support of that party at the outset. (Cheers.) He thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer was endeavouring, and successfully, to follow out a policy which its promoters at the time alluded to laboured at not altogether in vain. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman had genius and ability to carry out this system, but he also knew well his genius and ability might create a temporary enjoyment, but it was the character of his policy which would promote a permanent good. (Cheers.) He thought that by the treaty a permanent good would result to the country, and therefore he supported it. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had shown the object he had in view, and he believed every wish, every thought, and every study of the right hon. gentleman had been to see, and continue to hope to see, the vessels of this great country sailing triumphantly to every shore, and carrying the produce of our industry to every clime. (Renewed cheers.) The right hon. gentleman's untiring study had been to see the trade and energies of the country continuing on a course under those influences which had waited the great name of England to the remotest limits of the world. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. DISRAELI objected to the treaty upon three grounds—financial, diplomatic, and political. His first objection was to the creating a large deficiency of revenue for the purposes of this treaty. Upon the second ground, he objected to the treaty that it had been unskillfully and negligently entered into, and he adduced proofs of what he considered precipitation, and of carelessness in regard to British interests. Then the political objections to the treaty were a part of the subject which could not be evaded, as the House, he said, had been challenged to consider the treaty upon political grounds, it having been avowedly negotiated for political purposes. In considering the question of Savoy, he avowed that the conduct of the French Government appeared to him in that matter to have been, so far as the English Government was concerned, sincere, frank, and straightforward, while the latter had been pursuing a policy which they knew must necessarily have led to the annexation of the provinces, yet in the end turning round and affecting surprise. He complained that the narrative of the transactions on this subject was imperfect from the want of important information contained in private letters which did not appear. With a full knowledge of the intention of the Emperor of the French, no protest was made until a comparatively late period. Referring to his motion three weeks ago, Mr. Disraeli said:—

What I wanted to impress upon the House originally was this, "Don't go into committee of customs and sacrifice all this revenue before you address the Crown; because the Address to the Crown, so far as it can influence public events, will, in fact, then be only an idle ceremony" (cheers); and an idle ceremony it is to-night, because, however grave may be my objections to this treaty upon financial grounds, yet, after what the House has done, I feel that it is impossible to offer any opposition to it. (Ministerial cheers.) Regarding it from a diplomatic point of view, carping at and criticising a treaty is not a ground upon which you can refuse to address the Crown; and when we come to political considerations, why, if you were to terminate the treaty now you have lost your revenue. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Disraeli dwelt upon the dangerous state of foreign affairs:—

It has been publicly announced that empires have natural boundaries, and who can foresee what may be the consequences of such a policy in action? (Hear.) We know now that her Majesty's Government, even at the tenth hour, have protested against this policy. We know that they have described and denounced it as one of the most dangerous that can be pursued, one that must fill Europe with suspicion, with apprehension, with distrust (hear), and one that is associated with long and sanguinary wars, with the fall of empire, and with the fate of dynasties. (Hear, hear.) This is their own description of the critical state of Europe, and it is under these circumstances that we are called upon to confirm this treaty with the very power which the noble lord the Secretary of State himself has described as a Power of disturbance and distrust. (Hear.) Since the right hon. gentleman introduced his financial scheme to the House all the circumstances are changed. We are not influenced by the same feelings—the country is not thinking of the same considerations. All is altered since the day when I endeavoured to lead you to a safer course

(laughter and cheers), which everybody feels now and privately admits to have been the proper one (renewed laughter and counter-cheers), and which was then met by rhetorical jibes as it now is by unmeaning laughter.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he thought the House would be of opinion that the time for the full discussion of the matters referred to in the speech of Mr. Disraeli (Savoy, &c.) had not yet arrived. He should be ready, he observed, to rest the defence of the treaty on the various speeches already delivered, excepting the speech of Mr. Horsman, to which he replied, protesting against his tone and language:—

I must take leave to enter my respectful protest against the whole tone and language of my right hon. friend, when he described the character, policy, and conduct of a neighbouring and friendly nation. (Cheers.) My right hon. friend, in drawing a contrast between England and France, said that the policy of France was "aggression, aggrandisement, and war." (Cheers from the Opposition.) I admit to my right hon. friend that if the time has really come when it is the duty of a member of the British Parliament, of a man of ability and experience like my right hon. friend, thus to describe the permanent and standing character and policy of a neighbouring and friendly nation, then, indeed, it is inappropriate to be discussing either treaties of commerce or amendments to treaties of commerce, not to speak of some paltry amendment relating to the export of coal, but we ought to have a sweeping and unmistakable vote of condemnation passed at once upon the treaty that has been made and upon the Government that had made it. (Hear, hear.) Again, says my right hon. friend, it is not the best way to secure peace with the French people to wound and irritate their feelings. That is one of the *dicta* necessary to make up the budget of inconsistencies and contradictions which my right hon. friend has exhibited to-night. "It is not the best way to wound and irritate their feelings." I ask him to put himself in their position, and then to inquire of himself whether, if he had heard such a speech delivered by a subject of a nation in peace and alliance with his own, his feelings would or would not have been wounded and irritated? (Cheers.) But my right hon. friend endeavoured to save himself by drawing a minute distinction between the Government and the nation, and he told us that we were conspiring against the French people with their ruler. Does he really imagine that, in order to soothe the feelings of the French people, he has only to draw these distinctions between them and their Government, which no foreign nation has a right to draw? We have no right, I repeat, to draw such distinctions. It is not only an interference, but it is an interference of the most offensive kind (cheers); and if there be in France one spark of that patriotism which we were told to foster in England, every Frenchman must read, as every Englishman would read, with indignation much of what has been said to-night. (Cheers.)

After vindicating the general policy of the Government in relation to the affairs of Italy, he considered the objections offered to the treaty. It had been said it was a bargain, and that we had sought equivalents and had not got them.

This is a reciprocal instrument if you like, but a bargain it is not, for you are giving nothing to France that is not a gift to yourself, and you are receiving nothing from France except measures by which France confers a benefit upon herself. (Cheers.)

Upon commercial grounds, the short recommendation of the treaty was that at a very small loss of revenue we gained the advantage of a very great extension of our trade—

The whole annual amount of loss of revenue under the treaty upon our commerce with France cannot, I think, even at the outset, be estimated at more than 600,000*l.* or 700,000*l.* a-year—that is, including the ultimate fall of the wine duties, which will not take place before the expiration of nine months. On commercial grounds, then, I put against a very small loss of revenue for a year the promise of a very great extension of trade. (Cheers.) With regard to the great staples of France, wine and brandy, the reduction of duty is such as to promise a great increase of trade.

We had long acted upon the principle that all differential duties were bad, and there was scarcely a duty abandoned by us that was not a differential duty. With regard to France, no measure was more likely to conciliate the people of France. There was another important consideration—

The advantages to be derived from this treaty will go far beyond France, for I believe that the example of France joined with England in one course and policy will spread far beyond the limits of those two countries, and the results which the changes in this treaty ought to achieve will be not merely making 2d. into 4d., as an hon. member has said, but knitting together the hearts and minds of men, and the benefits will spread from region to region and from country to country. (Cheers.)

Mr. Gladstone proceeded to reply to specific objections to the articles of the treaty relating to shipping, contending that the treaty did much for British shipowners; and to coals, which article, he insisted, made no alteration in our rights and duties in regard to belligerents,—it was simply a commercial question. He enlarged upon this part of the treaty as regarded the interests of France and England:—

There is in the minds of the class of persons most closely connected with coal-mining in England not the slightest apprehension of an exhaustion of the stock. I have before me a letter from one of the best, most instructed, and most experienced coal-viewers in the north of England, in which I am informed that we have coal in this country to last for upwards of 2,000 years. I allude to Mr. Nicholas Wood. (Cheers.) But, as my hon. friend (Mr. Vivian) observed, that does not represent half the case; for you don't reckon the unworked seams; you don't reckon the deeper seams which are accessible; you don't take into view the hundreds of cases of new beds of coal which are discovered from month to month in England. The consumption of coal is 70,000,000 tons; the quantity sent to France is 1,000,000; if you are alarmed about the exhaustion of the existing stock you will economise on the remaining

69,000,000. (A laugh.) It would be absurd, it is said, when we consume 70,000,000 tons of coal at home, that we should export to another country 1,500,000 tons, which may increase to 3,000,000; we cannot afford it; and, therefore, we must retain power to restrain the export. Sir, these are not the grounds on which this House will carry an amendment to the foot of the Throne. (Cheers.)

Mr. Gladstone concluded in the following terms:—

When the right hon. member for Buckinghamshire travels back to a debate which took place three weeks ago, and rather glorifies himself on the advice he then gave to the House, but which the House refused to follow, he ought to recollect that that refusal was uttered not only by the members of the Government, not only by the majority which a party can supply; but that into that majority there entered many of the most able and respected members from the opposite side of the House, who usually vote with the right hon. gentleman himself. (Cheers.) He appeals to the future—to the future we also appeal. We cannot presume to predict the course of events. The experience of Mr. Pitt would warn us against any such presumption. But although the instrument which he concluded was not destined to last, it did not on that account redound with the less honour to his name; we don't the less believe that even for the time it existed it may have done much to allay the excitement which in both countries followed the close of the American war, and to produce greater feeling of self-command among the English people in the earlier stages of the French Revolution. It is not for us to presume to say that this treaty will work with such power as to control future events, but if, by the blessing of the Almighty, the spirit of justice, prudence, and moderation shall prevail in the Councils of Europe, then, looking to the state of Europe—to the power of every country to attain strength and eminence through the development of its internal resources, and to the absence of all legitimate causes of strife and collision, we ought to hope that that state of circumstances may remain under which this treaty may produce beneficial effects beyond any power of judging; and I must say that in that case I cannot but cherish the cheerful and sanguine expectation that it will of itself do something to make the year 1860 one memorable—memorable because fruitful of blessings—in the annals of Europe and mankind. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

Mr. HORSMAN said that, in compliance with the wishes of many hon. gentlemen who agreed with him on his motion, he did not wish to press his amendment to a division. (Loud cries of "Divide.")

The House then divided, when there appeared—

For the amendment	...	56
Against	...	282
Majority	...	—226

The announcement of the numbers was received with cheers.

The motion for an address to her Majesty was then agreed to, and a committee appointed in conformity with a resolution to that effect to prepare the terms of the address.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to two o'clock.

EXPORT OF RAGS.

On Monday, in answer to Mr. Fuller, Lord J. RUSSELL said that it was probable that there would be an export duty on rags in France as soon as the prohibitory duty was removed, but it was not fixed what the amount of duty would be. Steps would be taken by the Government to obtain a free export of rags from Belgium, Holland, Germany, Spain, and Portugal, whence the export was prohibited or restricted by heavy duties.

THE SAVOY QUESTION.

In answer to Mr. Disraeli,

Lord J. RUSSELL said he should move the second reading of the Reform Bill on Monday next, no arrangement having been made by the Government to allow Mr. Kinglake's motion with regard to Savoy for that evening.

Mr. A. KINGLAKE appealed to the Government to give him an evening for that discussion.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that there had been a discussion which showed pretty plainly the feeling of the House on this subject; and he deprecated any definite motion, as being detrimental to the public interests. If any member thought that if the annexation of Savoy took place with the consent of Sardinia and the assent of the people of Savoy we ought to go to war on the question, let a motion be made to that effect.

Mr. DISRAELI said that, besides the policy of the Emperor, there was the conduct of the Government involved, on which a discussion was required.

Lord PALMERSTON said if it was thought that the conduct of the Government should be made the subject of a vote of censure, that was a proper and legitimate course, and he was ready to meet such a discussion whenever it was brought forward.

(Continued on Page 212.)

Postscript.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

THE ANNEXATION OF CENTRAL ITALY.

BOLOGNA, Tuesday Morning.

The result of the vote in the city and suburbs of Bologna is as follows:—

For annexation to Sardinia	...	21,694
For separate kingdom	...	2
The whole army voted for annexation.		

LEGHORN, Tuesday.

The following is the result of the voting in Sienna, Pisa, and Leghorn:—

For annexation to Piedmont,	...	38,026
For a separate kingdom,	...	333

Majority for annexation ... 37,693

The number of persons inscribed on the lists is 48,218.

FLORENCE, Tuesday.

The returns of thirty communes give 101,386 votes in favour of annexation, and 2,809 votes for a separate kingdom. The result of the voting in this and other towns is not yet known.

PARMA, Tuesday.

The number of electors registered in this town is 16,091, of whom 14,051 voted for annexation to Sardinia, and 51 for a separate kingdom. The number of electors in the provinces is 57,212, of whom 48,070 voted for annexation, and 113 for separate kingdom. The returns of one district and five communes have not yet been received.

ROME (via Marseilles), March 6.

During the night bills were posted up in the streets congratulating the Romans upon having obeyed the prohibition against smoking, but now removing it. To-day, therefore, everybody smokes.

The army has been increased to 20,000 men, but desertions are numerous throughout Pesario and the Marches.

PARIS, Tuesday.

3.20 P.M.—The Bourse opened firm, but became heavy on the receipt of the report of last night's debate in the House of Commons relative to Savoy. The last quotation of Rentes was 67½, 85c., being a decline of 15 centimes since yesterday.

BERLIN, Tuesday.

It is asserted that England supports the demand of Sardinia to ascertain the wishes of the populations of Savoy and Nice by universal suffrage.

NAPLES (via Marseilles), March 6.

The English fleet has arrived, part of which has anchored in the port, the other part proceeding to Castellamara. This event caused great sensation. For several nights tricoloured cockades have been scattered in the streets. Fresh arrests of shopkeepers and porters have taken place within the last two days. The military preparations continue, and the works at the arsenal are carried on without intermission.

The formation of a moveable column to reinforce the army of the frontier is spoken of. It would be commanded by the King.

AMERICA.

The Prince Albert has arrived at Galway with intelligence from New York to the 6th inst., only eight days ago.

No later news of the Hungarian. Agents have been at the wreck, but discovered no bodies; it was supposed they had been carried eastwards. The cargo was floating about.

Mr. McLean had returned to Vera Cruz with full power to act in any emergency. Two war-steamer had sailed from Havannah under the Mexican flag, and were reported as being engaged by Santa Anna, to aid the Church party. Miramon's whereabouts were unknown at the latest dates, but he was understood to be on his way to Vera Cruz, and had issued a proclamation commanding its submission.

The Indians on the northern frontiers of Texas are massacring the people. Nine companies of regulars have already taken the field against them and the robbers on the Rio Grande.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords last night, Lord CHELMSFORD moved for leave to bring in a bill to diminish and restrict the practice of Sunday trading. There was no other business of importance brought before their lordships.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Padmore took his seat for Worcester, in the room of Mr. Laslett.

Mr. ROEBUCK, in the absence of Mr. Hadfield, moved an address for returns of offices held by archdeacons of the Established Church in England in addition to the archdeaconry, specifying the several incomes attached to each office, viz., the amount of receipts from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the amount of receipts from cathedral canonries, the amount paid as visitation fees upon each visitation. Agreed to.

Mr. DUNCAN gave notice that, in committee on the Reform Bill, he should move a clause giving the option to electors to vote by ballot.

In answer to Mr. Newdegate, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that article 5 of the treaty applied to the productions of all countries as well as France.

In answer to Lord Stanley, Sir C. WOOD said that steps had been taken for the restoration of the State of Dhar to its native rulers.

THE ITALIAN QUESTION.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, on moving that certain papers relating to the affairs of Italy be laid on the table, entered into an explanation of the conduct of the Government in relation to those affairs. He began by representing the state in which the question of Savoy and Nice had been left by the late Administration, and proceeded to vindicate the present Government from the accusation that they had pursued a policy which, by promoting the annexation of the Romagna and Tuscany to Sardinia, laid a ground for that of Savoy to France. This accusation was founded, he said, upon an entire misapprehension. Their policy had been to endeavour by negotiation to secure to the Italian people the power of managing their own affairs. He then explained the communications which had taken place on the subject of certain proposed combinations for the restoration of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and the establishment of a kingdom of Central Italy. It had been said that for a long time he had acquiesced in the design of France to annex Savoy, and that he took no step in the matter until late in the month of January. But this was a mistake of dates. On the 5th of July he had stated what he considered would be the consequences to the Emperor of the French if the plan of annexing Savoy was carried into effect, in the general distrust it would create. But, according to Count Walewski, no such plan was then contemplated, and, the contingency he referred to being improbable, it was unnecessary for him (Lord John) to say that, supposing the Grand Duke of Tuscany not to be restored, and a kingdom of Central Italy not to be formed, he must reiterate the declaration he had made. In January, however, the question had assumed a different shape, showing that there was a project on foot for the annexation of Savoy, and at the end of that month the Government renewed the expression of its fears as to

the consequences of the measure. It had been objected, he continued, that the Government had been so anxious for the independence of Italy that they had neglected other objects. But in 1856 Lord Clarendon had thought the question of the state of Italy of so much importance that he brought it before the Conference, and later occurrences had induced the Government to consider it one of European interest, and, if so, of British interest. It was for European objects that they had employed the influence of Great Britain, and employed it peacefully, to reconcile differences, prevent war, and lay the foundations of peace between the great Powers of Europe. If, in doing so, they could enable Italy to regain her independence, and raise a country, which had for three centuries been sunk and degraded, into one of the leading Powers of Europe, so far from being ashamed, and shrinking from any responsibility, he should always take a pride in having been allowed to participate in such an object.

Mr. WHITESIDE adverted to the repeated warnings given by Switzerland. The British Government, however, had done nothing in consequence of these repeated warnings, and, although Lord Cowley, in the month of January, wrote for instructions, up to the 28th there was nothing to show what the Government thought or did on the subject. On that day Lord J. Russell wrote a very good despatch; but in that despatch he did not make a remonstrance founded upon the general law of Europe. He went through some of the papers laid before the House, with the view of showing that the French Government had very frankly declared its views that if Sardinia was aggrandised by the addition of Tuscany and the Romagna France must have Savoy and Nice; and he contended that the Government had laboured to bring about this contingency.

After some observations by Mr. MILNES and Mr. COCHRANE.

Mr. HORSMAN believed the House would be unanimous in thinking that the annexation of Savoy should not be made a cause of war. But the question was, whether France would not thereby acquire a new military frontier for a great military Power. He thought our Government would have done more wisely on this occasion if they had entered into a prospective alliance with Prussia, as a protest that could not have been mistaken against this aggression and challenge to Europe. In his view this would have been the sound and wise policy to have adopted, and then England would have been taking a dignified attitude, instead of hugging a commercial treaty with France, while this was going on. The policy of total acquiescence was a dangerous and unworthy policy; the other would place us in a dignified attitude before the world.

The discussion was continued by Lord H. Vane, Mr. Griffith, and Mr. Kinnsaird.

Lord PALMERSTON thought the course which the Government had pursued in this matter was much more clear and consistent than Mr. Whiteside had represented. It was clear that this was not a case upon which the issue of peace or war ought to depend. The cession of Savoy did not involve the interests of this country so as to induce us to go to war to prevent it. As regarded England, France would not be stronger after the acquisition of Savoy than before. If this was agreed upon, it was clear that some of the measures recommended in the debate would not be expedient. To enter into alliances with the great Powers of Europe, unless the matter was of sufficient importance, would inspire alarm, and rouse the national feeling in France. In the opinion of the Government this was a question of European interest, and he could not help thinking that other Governments would take the same view as our own, and that the Government of France would find that it would gain more by preserving the good opinion of Europe than by the acquisition of this small territory.

Mr. DISRAELI contended that Ministers, being acquainted with the policy of France, that if Sardinia was aggrandised by the acquisition of the Duchy, she would demand the annexation of Savoy, had pursued a course favouring that policy.

After speeches from Mr. Kinglake, Mr. S. Fitzgerald, and Mr. Osborne, the discussion terminated.

Mr. GEORGE brought up the report of the Peterborough Election Committee, which declared that Mr. G. H. Whalley was duly elected.

SAFETY OF THE COMMODORE PERRY.—This long-expected gold ship arrived yesterday off Portsmouth from Melbourne, after a passage of 118 days, with 58,000l. in gold and 5,601 bales of wool. Twenty-five guineas per cent. were paid yesterday at Lloyd's to effect fresh insurances on this vessel.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. BARON WATSON.—The commission of assize for the county of Montgomery was opened on Monday at Welshpool, and Mr. Baron Watson, having attended divine service at the parish church yesterday morning, immediately afterwards opened the court. His lordship had just concluded charging the grand jury, when he put a handkerchief to his face, applied a smelling-bottle to his nose, and leaned back in his chair. Every effort was used that medical skill could devise, but the learned baron gradually grew worse, and having been laid upon a sofa cushion, was carried out of court to his lodgings, which are only a few yards distant from the court. Pulsation had almost ceased by the time he arrived there, and in a few minutes after he had ceased to breathe.

MARK LANE.—THIS DAY.

A very scanty supply of English wheat was on offer in our market, to-day. Although the attendance of millers was limited, the demand for all kinds ruled steady, at full Monday's currency. We were well supplied with foreign wheat, and the inquiry was chiefly restricted to small parcels, but at extreme rates. Floating cargoes supported former terms. The few samples of barley on show were readily disposed of, at extreme rates. For malt, the demand was much restricted. Prices, however, were supported. The oat trade was in a sluggish state, at late quotations. Beans were a dull sale, but not cheaper. Peas and flour commanded full currencies.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English	1,059	1,249	1,740	250	830
Irish	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign	810	—	—	2,350	140 shs.

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"An Old Subscriber."—His letter reached us when the paper was full, or we would have inserted it.

"Inquirer."—Declined.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1860.

SUMMARY.

SARDINIA is in process of becoming one of the Great Powers of Europe. There is not a shadow of doubt as to the result of the vote of the Central Italian States on the question of "annexation" or "separate kingdom," taken by universal suffrage and the ballot. If the Emperor Napoleon, in suggesting this final appeal to the national sense, intended to show that he could offer no resistance to the will of Northern Italy, he has entirely succeeded. There is no doubt that the elections have been *bona fide*, and that the result is in each case as perfect a legal expression of a people's wishes as history records. There have been returns from only thirty communes in Tuscany, and these give 38,026 for annexation, and 2,809 for a separate kingdom. In Siena, Pisa, and Leghorn, the separatists are a still smaller fraction. The unexpected decisive issue of the Tuscan vote is ascribed to indignation at the dictation of the Emperor Napoleon. The city of Bologna has treated the Pope with even less consideration. Two only out of 21,694, have recorded votes hostile to annexation. But what has become of the Catholic priests of Central Italy? Nowhere have they ventured openly to oppose the popular will; in some districts they appear to have abstained; in rural parishes they headed the population in the national vote. The last suspicion as to the genuineness of this national display is removed by the fact that only a very minute proportion of those qualified to vote by universal suffrage abstained from exercising the privilege. No foreign interference can now prevent the consolidation of a Kingdom of Italy with a population of twelve millions under Victor Emmanuel, and Lord John Russell had last night good reason for his honest exultation when he closed his speech on the Italian question with the remark:—"If we should be enabled again to see that country, which has been for three centuries sunk and degraded, one of the first Powers of Europe, and the people of Italy, with their great abilities and honest hearts, one of the most distinguished among the families of the world, so far from being ashamed of having contributed to that result, so far from shrinking from any responsibility, I shall, on the contrary, take pride to myself that I have been able in any degree to contribute to that result."

This *jact accompli* does not, unfortunately, remove all apprehension as to further complications in European politics. It seems to have intensified discontent in the other Papal provinces, in the city of Rome, in Venetia, and in Naples. We must, however, take what comfort is possible from diplomatic assurances. The last despatches on the Italian question—which come down as late as March 9th—speak of each one of Lord John's four proposals as being "virtually" accepted by France; which Power will consequently permit the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont without further protest. Lord

John Russell concludes "that the French army will, in the spring, evacuate Lombardy, and leave Northern Italy to itself." But will Austria and Piedmont then come into collision? Not if avowed intentions are to be carried out. The Court of Vienna has resolved "not to outstep the limits of Venetia," and Count Cavour positively abjures "any attempt to disturb Venetia, or those States which still acknowledge the authority of the Pope." If only the disaffected populations would consent to settle down in quiet, while their brethren of Northern Italy are enjoying the blessings of independence, we might look for a period of peace. But, under existing circumstances, it is sanguine to expect more than an armed truce between Northern Italy and Austria.

Even a short respite from these periodical alarms is, however, to be hailed as a relief. During the interval France will, of course, quietly absorb Savoy. Victor Emmanuel gives his consent; the Savoyards seem to have little care on the subject; the Piedmontese scarcely pretend to regret parting company with a population that speak a foreign tongue, that are priest-ridden and unenterprising, and that have ever been the stronghold of the obstructionist section in their Parliament; and the other Powers of Europe do not feel called upon to interfere. And lastly, the champions of Savoy in the British Parliament have condescended to abate their menacing tone. In the House of Commons last night the courage of Messrs. Horsman, Fitzgerald, and Kinglake evaporated. After Lord John Russell had made a speech showing the statesmanlike and consistent conduct of the Government throughout the Italian negotiations, these gentlemen severally offered their explanations. Mr. Horsman would himself impeach any Minister who would dare to make Savoy a question of war; Mr. Fitzgerald disclaimed any intention of using language to irritate the French people; Mr. Kinglake was willing that England should act in conjunction with the other Powers of Europe in this matter; while the assiduous leader of the Opposition—never neglectful of party interests—took the safe ground that we as a nation had no quarrel with France with regard to her Italian policy, for she had given us fair warning, and our Government had assisted it, and were responsible for the consequences—why? because they carried out the principle of allowing Central Italy to dispose of itself! However, the Savoy question is disposed of—the atmosphere is serene—and Ministers have come out of all these discussions with an augmented moral power that will help to carry their Reform Bill.

Unable to employ their time to advantage the Peers have become a kind of gossiping club, with the Marquis of Normanby as chief spokesman. The used-up diplomatist is not only a pitiable and dangerous character, but has become a bore even to his friends. He is presuming too much on his privileges as an hereditary legislator in bringing the grievances of Signor Casagnari and his wife, and discussing Lord Clanricarde's dinner parties at Milan, before the British Senate. However important these matters to the ex-ambassador, the Peers and the public ought not to be troubled with them.

The House of Commons has during the week received two new members—Mr. Cubitt, a Conservative, who has been returned for West Surrey, because no one thought it worth while to get up a contest, and whose newly-born aristocratic sense is so refined that he could not repeat the "coarse" language in which "the Manchester school" have described the union of Church and State; and Mr. Alderman Padmore, whose unopposed election for Worcester is a striking testimony of the respect of his fellow-citizens for one who has risen from the ranks. We have no doubt that Mr. Padmore will prove a valuable addition to the band of advanced Liberals in the House. For some of the new seats that will be created should the Reform Bill pass, candidates are already in the field. Thus, Mr. J. C. Marshman has made his bow to "the inhabitants of Stalybridge"—nearly a year in advance of the next election.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

AGAIN we have to record progress—decided progress—rapid progress—progress, too, in a direction approved by the public with singular unanimity. The Session of 1860 bids fair to become one of the most memorable in Parliamentary annals, not merely for the magnitude of its legislative achievements, but also for the eloquence of its debates, and for the prompt despatch of its business. We have not yet reached Easter—and yet within less than two months, more useful legislation has already been effected than can ordinarily be squeezed into a whole session. Within that comparatively brief interval one of the most extensive and beneficial

reforms which even this country has ever witnessed has been completed in our commercial and financial arrangements. And, let it be borne in mind that this immense change is not a simple one which a single debate was sufficient to secure. On the contrary, it is remarkably complex, touching numerous interests, and requiring the most watchful care in the management of multitudinous details. No man living, probably, but the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, could have pushed forward under such a burden at such a pace. No other man, we believe, could have won the assent of the House of Commons to so large and complicated a scheme without submitting to greater alterations in it. All the main features of his plan are now secure. What remains is mere routine work. Suspense will lend no interest to his future proceedings. By Easter he will have finished the execution of his gigantic task, and the House will be at leisure to proceed with the Reform Bills and the Estimates.

Three topics have shared between them the attention of the House during the past week—the Savoy question, the Treaty, and the Paper-duties. The first named question had cropped up irregularly here and there—now in the shape of a Ministerial interpellation, and now as a debate on a question of adjournment. There would seem to be a strong desire somewhere to "strengthen the hands of the Government" as against France—whereas the Government naturally desire to know to what purpose their hands are to be strengthened. They have already done all that can be done by way of amicable remonstrance. They cannot add either to the decision or to the weight of the words they long since uttered in the ear of the French Emperor. They have communicated their opinion to the other great Powers. Unless, therefore, they are prepared to excite alienation in the mind of Napoleon III., and to risk a general war on a matter which concerns us, if at all, only very remotely, they wisely demand to be informed in what sense, and to what end, they are to be made stronger. Mr. Kinglake wants an immediate discussion in the vague hope that its tone will stay the execution of the Emperor's project. He seems to regard every moment lost as another chance thrown away. But what would he have? Mere discussion, terminating in no practical result, is likely enough to kindle animosity, but would it do more? And if it would, are we sure that the result would be a desirable one? Would the peace of Europe be any the safer, or would the independence of Italy be any the more secure, for baulking the Emperor of the small prey upon which he has made up his mind to pounce? Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald is much more intelligible. He would have "a solemn protest" delivered in the name of the four Powers—and, of course, behind that protest, a military alliance, if necessary. No doubt, Germany would gladly lug us in to an eventual defence of her frontiers—but this country is not over eager to take up any such gratuitous and unnecessary responsibility. Mr. Disraeli wishes to censure the Ministry. This, too, is intelligible—but then why does he not openly propose a vote of censure, and accept the defeat he would be sure to incur? There is something specially irritating and unmanly in the tactics resorted to on this subject. A section of the House of Commons, afraid to put their real sentiments into a form that might be grappled with and crushed, seem intent upon worrying without actually wounding a neighbouring and friendly Power—and, it must be confessed, they have not only sought, but made opportunities for giving effect to their wishes. But we are unconsciously prosing—so we reserve our more matured opinions on this topic for an article below.

The Treaty is another of the great questions successfully disposed of by the House of Commons this week. After the preliminary debates on the Budget, and the various discussions in the Customs Acts Committee, novelty was scarcely to be expected on this subject. The motion for an address to the Crown, thanking her Majesty for having concluded this Commercial Treaty with France, was very ably brought forward by Mr. Byng, and as ably seconded by Mr. Baines, who has evidently won for himself an honourable position in the House, and who commands its respect and attention. Sir Hugh Cairns led the opposition, Mr. Lindsay with commendable good taste and discretion having declined to move the amendment of which he had given notice, and pronounced his hearty concurrence with the general provisions of the Treaty. Sir Hugh began by declaring his hope that the motion would be carried—and then proceeded to point out that it was an ill-considered, one-sided, and costly bargain for England, and for Ireland particularly. But with all his ability, the hon. and learned gentleman made but a dreary speech. Dreary, however, as it was, it had the merit of upsetting the amend-

ment previously moved by Lord Vane Tempest, respectfully declining to express an opinion upon the Treaty until the intentions of the Emperor of the French with respect to the annexation of Savoy should be made known to the country. Scarcely less dull, if more logical and convincing, was Mr. Gibson's reply to the criticisms of the ex-Solicitor-General—and duldest of all was Sir Stafford Northcote's rejoinder.

The adjourned debate on Friday was a good deal livelier. Mr. Horsman opened it with an amendment expressing dissent from the eleventh article of the Treaty—that relating to the exportation of coals from Great Britain—and prefaced his motion by a vigorous, slashing, personal, and mischievous speech. His main object appeared to be to damage the Ministry, and especially Mr. Gladstone, whose service in securing the stability of the Cabinet by the efforts of his commanding financial genius seem to have marked him out as the object of Mr. Horsman's most malignant wrath. Sir Robert Peel, with inimitable grace, and with a power of common-sense and right feeling such as he has never before displayed, without deigning to notice Mr. Horsman's splenetic attack, uttered a noble eulogium on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to whom, he said, the credit of the Treaty was mainly due. His straightforward, large-hearted, and really eloquent speech made an immense impression upon the House, and drew from it some of its heartiest cheers. Mr. Disraeli was clever but tedious—and the staple of his address was beside the mark—being a laboured criticism on Lord John Russell's Italian policy. Mr. Gladstone closed the debate. He put aside Mr. Disraeli's foreign matters for a more fitting occasion. He read a dignified but very searching rebuke to Mr. Horsman. He then vindicated the Treaty from the criticisms of Sir Hugh Cairns, replied to specific objections, and wound up with a peroration worthy, both in its tone and substance, of the great subject about to be disposed of. At the last moment, Mr. Horsman wished to withdraw his amendment—but this the House would not permit. The strength of the right hon. gentleman's opposition was thus fortunately disclosed to the world. The numbers announced, amid vociferous cheering, were—for the amendment, 56—against it, 282—majority in support of the Treaty, 226.

The second reading of the abolition of the Paper-duties Bill came off on Monday, when Mr. Horsman and Mr. Gladstone were again in fierce antagonism. Indeed, this was the liveliest incident of the debate—the speeches of Mr. Miles, in proposing his amendment, and of Lord R. Cecil in supporting it, as well as several speeches in favour of the motion, exhibiting nothing very remarkable. Here, Mr. Gibson was at home, and he succeeded in putting before the House a strong case in a most instructive, interesting, and convincing shape. But Mr. Horsman, very much reminding one of Mr. Disraeli in the late Sir Robert Peel's days, evinced unusual ability, power, and we must add, bitterness. The remission of the Paper-duties he characterised as the commencement of an insidious attempt to shift the burden of taxation from the shoulders of commerce to those of property. If he had been less extravagant he might have been more successful. The case admitted of being handled adversely to the Ministry, adversely to the other features of the Budget. But when the right hon. gentleman attempted to show that the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not understand the first principles of financial economy, and when he imputed to Mr. Gladstone, in a clumsily jocular passage, that he was stealthily carrying out Mr. Bright's plan of finance, he provoked the impatience of the House, and egregiously failed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was animated in his reply, but it is evident that he takes no special interest in personal encounters. His highest power was put forth, not in defence of himself, but of his measure—and here he was unanswerable. A majority of 53 for the second reading of the Bill rewarded his noble and triumphant effort.

GERMAN INFLUENCE ON OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

THERE can be little doubt, now that several irregular discussions in both Houses of Parliament have laid bare their feelings, that we have amongst us a party, small, it may be, in actual numbers, but influential and powerful by position, who, for reasons which are possibly clear and justifiable to their own minds, but which are inscrutable to ours, deem it their duty to avail themselves of every pretext for sowing mutual suspicion between France and England. Their immediate *point d'appui* is the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France. Hereupon, for the present, they take their stand. Giving them credit for motives which present them-

selves to their own view as patriotic and statesmanlike, it is here, we suppose, that they hold themselves best able to resist that Imperial policy of territorial encroachment which, if allowed to develop itself, will, they imagine, at no very remote period, threaten the outlying provinces of Prussia—and, in the end, perhaps, the kingdom of Belgium. No one will contend that Savoy and Nice are worth preserving to Sardinia at the cost of an European war. Their annexation to France, especially if effected with the consent of Sardinia, and in accordance with a vote of their own populations, can only assume an aspect of importance in this country, by being considered the first in a series of meditated encroachments which will push the French frontiers to the banks of the Rhine. Germany, therefore, may discover in this annexation grounds of suspicion—perhaps, even of alarm. But it still remains open to ask, why the cause of Germany may not be left to the guardianship of Germany, and why the English people should be enormously taxed with a view to erect a sort of political and military breakwater upon which the first billows of French ambition may expend their fury.

Germany, be it remembered, is not a small power. The Confederation includes within it two of the first-class military monarchies. If the mutual jealousies of Austria and Prussia, aggravated by the division of the rest of Germany between smaller potentates, weaken the internal strength of the Confederation, and make all its movements too slow to meet external emergencies as they arise, that may be a sufficient reason for remodelling the political partition of Germany, but is hardly ground strong enough to justify the assumption by England of the responsibility which properly belongs to Germany, and which, but for her own senseless internal political arrangements, she is perfectly competent to discharge. How comes it, then, that our Continental policy has so uniform a tendency to run into a German mould? Is it that our Conservative statesmen really sympathise with the despotic principles of German, and, particularly, of Austrian, rule? Such sympathy may exist—but we cannot believe it to be so extensive as to account for the present outburst of anger against Napoleon. The fact is, the minor Courts of Germany have direct and indirect relations with the Crown of Great Britain which operate most sensibly in tinging our Continental policy. A number of small royal or ducal houses have reason to fear that they must be sacrificed before Germany can develop her natural strength—and it is only in accordance with the usual laws which govern human nature that their connexions on this side the water should deeply sympathise with them. Hence, in the highest political regions, the close identification of English with German policy—and hence the expectation that German battles should, if possible, be first fought in this country.

Now the present Ministry are not German enough to meet the wishes or longings which naturally enough prevail in the upper atmosphere to which we have referred. They have so far deviated from the traditions which have long held possession of the Foreign-office, that they decline to take upon themselves a quarrel with France, in order that small German princes may continue to hold their own. They seem to think that England is not called upon to begin a desperate contest which, even if she were victorious, would yield her no fruits, and the prizes of which would fall to the exclusive lot of a few Royal houses in Germany. And, in our judgment, they are quite right. If the trans-Rhenish provinces of Prussia be really menaced by the Imperial policy which annexes Savoy and Nice to France, let Prussia prepare to shield them from danger. Why are we called upon to take the first step? What positive interest of ours is at stake? As against England, would France be stronger than she is already? With the Commercial Treaty just signed in our hands, would our trade suffer? Would our people be wronged? At any rate, are we bound to anticipate this mainly German disaster, by stepping forward and provoking the hostility of France against ourselves? If Germany wishes for war with Napoleon before he preceeds to lay hands upon her outlying confines, is that an adequate reason for our being used as the cat's-paw to pluck chestnuts we are never destined to taste out of the fire? And because her Majesty's Ministers refuse to carry into effect so disastrous a policy, are they to be reviled as the tame and cowardly slaves of Napoleonic ideas?

The origin of all the Parliamentary effervescence which has been witnessed in respect of Savoy and Nice we take to be this. Since the Italian war, there has been elicited amongst a considerable section of English politicians, partly by the apparent caprice of some of Napoleon's proceedings, but mainly by the incessant instigations of a portion of the public press, an un-

manly distrust of the Emperor of the French, and a secret desire to see him so far thwarted in his designs as may make him sensible that he will not be suffered to assume a Dictatorate on the continent. Upon this susceptibility, which more or less affected the higher political class, there has streamed in through channels we need not again indicate, a constant current of German influences which, acting like acid upon alkali, has produced no little commotion. The excitement, however, has never been communicated to the country. It has never got far beyond the two Houses of Parliament and the purlieus of the West-end clubs. Within that narrow radius it may be intense enough—beyond it none but the most transient ruffle can be stirred. And why? Because nobody can be got to discern in this annexation question any semblance of danger, save to certain continental dynastic interests. "Poor cousins" abroad may be dreadfully flattered—but the alarms of poor cousins are not contagious among classes of society beneath a certain grade. The fact is, to the great mass of our countrymen the stir made on this question is unintelligible—and were it but thoroughly understood there would be an end of all chance of involving Great Britain in mischief.

Under these circumstances, it redounds greatly to the credit of Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell that, without truckling in the smallest iota to the ambition of the French Emperor, they distinctly refuse to be driven into the old German ruts—ruts which could only conduct them to war with France in the interest of small German princes. We are glad to perceive that whilst their policy has been anything but favourable to the aggrandisement of the French empire, it has kept them no less apart from the old traditions of the Foreign-office. Napoleon has not made them—and so far as we can discover has not attempted to make them—his dupe; nor, on the other hand, have the German courts persuaded them to become a cat's-paw for their interests. The stand they have so firmly taken is on essentially English ground—and, although all the reasons for it may not be patent to Englishmen in general, there is a *prima facie* appearance in it of indigenous qualities which cannot fail to commend it to the honest instincts and common sense of the country. What may be Mr. Kingslake's peculiar interest or responsibility in the matter we have no means of knowing, and no care to know. Let him, by all means, deliver his speech and his conscience! But he has no right to claim from the Ministry any extraordinary facilities for giving to an active Parliamentary party free scope for the indulgence of those political sympathies which, if gratified, would bring all but inextricable embarrassment on the present administration, provoke the hostility of France, and load the British people with taxes, for no other discernible object than that of warding off from Germany a danger which, were it not broken up into petty principalities, Germany might very safely defy.

THE BERWICK BRIBERY CASES.

THE recent trial at the Northumberland Assizes illustrates in a striking manner the unsatisfactory state of the law of libel, the public spirit of the principal officers of the Northern Reform Union, and the great difficulty of putting down bribery and corruption in Parliamentary elections.

The Northern Reform Union, as our readers are aware, has for several years past been the most active of all the organisations in existence for agitating the question of Parliamentary Reform. Taking their stand upon manhood suffrage, Mr. Joseph Cowen, jun., and his colleagues have been incessant in indoctrinating the population of the northern counties with that main article of their faith, and there is scarcely a town of any importance in that wide district which has not, in public meeting, pronounced in favour of popular enfranchisement to the widest extent. If they have not succeeded in overcoming the stolid apathy of the times, the Newcastle Reformers have, at least, the satisfaction of having done something to educate the public mind in political knowledge and purity.

Last autumn the Union attempted to expose and bring to punishment a flagrant case of political profligacy. It will be remembered that Mr. Erle, one of the Tory members elected for Berwick at the General Election, preferred rather to resign his seat than encounter the ordeal of a Parliamentary inquiry. A new election took place in the autumn, when Mr. Majoribanks, the Whig—recommended by the retiring member, was carried, after a severe contest, by a majority of one over Mr. Hodgson, the Tory candidate. The Northern Reform Union has a branch in Berwick, and that body maintained a vigilance committee in the town during the election. The committee reported that extensive bribery had prevailed, and that the seat

of Mr. Majoribanks had been secured by that means. An inquiry was instituted, evidence was got up against the parties, and instructions were issued by the executive of the Union that proceedings should be taken against certain individuals of the Whig party for bribery. In explanation of their conduct the vigilance committee prepared a report, in which they gave a history of elections in Berwick, and in which they reiterated their statement that the last election had been secured by bribery, mentioning the names of six supporters of Mr. Majoribanks to be sued for penalties under the Corrupt Practices at Elections Act. This report was printed in the columns of the *Daily Chronicle*, published in Newcastle, against which the six persons whose names were mentioned brought counter-actions for libel. The three gentlemen who had signed the report—Mr. Richard B. Reed (secretary), Mr. Joseph Cowen, jun. (treasurer), and Mr. James Gilmour (one of the executive of the Northern Union), acknowledged the authorship of the document, and with great magnanimity took the responsibility off the journalist.

Each series of trials was fixed to come on at the late Assizes. As it happened, the case of Mr. Wilson, one of the Berwick electors, against the officials of the Northern Reform Union was heard first, and to this circumstance the result was mainly due. Mr. Temple, the counsel for the defendants, stated that they had not put in a justification, because by doing so they would have disclosed all their case against the plaintiff, and given him an opportunity of tampering with the witnesses who would subsequently have to be produced. But he argued that the report containing the alleged libels was only a fair and temperate statement of results obtained by information which had been put to the process of legal proof. Mr. Justice Hill, however, laid it down that "any publication which exposed an individual to hatred, contempt, or ridicule, being published without lawful excuse, was a libel; and he told them, as a matter of law, that this sub-committee publishing, or this Reform Union publishing, a report from its sub-committee, did not constitute a lawful excuse in law." This may be law, but it is not equity. The jury showed their sense of the injury sustained by Mr. Wilson from the libel by awarding him one shilling damages. In each of the other five cases a similar verdict was returned.

"Law is as nice as a new-laid egg," it is said, and these trials verify the remark. Next day one of the former plaintiffs, Mr. D. A. Lamb, became the defendant in an action for penalties under the Corrupt Practices at Elections Act. A clear case of bribery was proved, and a verdict for the penalty of 100*l.* recorded. The libelled of the previous day was now the convicted; so that, but for accident or some kind of legal manœuvring, it is probable that the libel cases would never have been heard of, and the whole of the cases tried upon their real merits. It was ruled by Mr. Hill in the libel case that Mr. Cowen and his colleagues "had no right, in discussing any subject in the columns of a newspaper, to make personal imputations on individuals." But the next day these "imputations," in one case at least, were legally proved. Consequently the truth was a "libel" on Wednesday, but truth on Thursday. Surely the law of libel might be brought more into harmony with equity and common sense! The other penalty actions stand over till the Summer Assizes.

In spite of the fresh proof thus afforded of the difficulty of putting down bribery and corruption by legal penalties, the moral effect of these trials can scarcely fail to be salutary at Berwick, as well as elsewhere. Mr. Cowen, jun., and his colleagues have exhibited a sturdy patriotism rarely witnessed in these days—a self-sacrificing spirit that merits the thanks of the public. We should be rejoiced to learn that the heavy costs incurred by them in the discharge of their high sense of duty were to be defrayed by public subscription. They may have been outwitted by legal manœuvres, but they have won the approbation of all who desire to see some stop put to the corruption [that is eating into our borough constituencies. And they have, though with obloquy and expense to themselves, shown that even the present law may be made available to punish political profligacy.

THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—On Wednesday, the property so well known as the Royal Polytechnic Institution was offered to public auction in the theatre of the institution, by Mr. G. Robinson, under the provisions of the Joint Stock Companies Winding-up Acts. The property was stated by the auctioneer to have cost the institution no less than 40,000*l.* The highest bid was that made by Mr. E. T. Smith, of Drury-lane Theatre, of 3,100*l.*, which sum, the auctioneer stated, was under the reserve price fixed by the Court of Chancery, and the property was, therefore, not sold. Mr. Smith: Having made the highest bid, I believe I am entitled to the refusal of it? Auctioneer: I believe that is so.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

(Continued from Page 209.)

Sir J. PAKINGTON said that all that was required was an explanation of the conduct of the Government, which did not necessarily imply a vote of censure.

Mr. HORSMAN said that the remarks of Lord John Russell were calculated to alarm the House and the country with regard to this subject. Not a word had been said on the subject of the communications made to Russia, Austria, and Prussia. He should like to know to which of the two parties holding the opinions on this question which the noble lord had sketched the Ministry belonged.

Mr. GLADSTONE denied that the Government had been chary of information on their foreign policy, for they afforded it as rapidly as they received it. As to difference in the Cabinet, he could only ascribe this notion of Mr. Horsman on this point to the friendly interest—(laughter)—which he must feel in their perfect harmony. That point would easily be tested when any motion was brought forward questioning their conduct. He objected also to continuous but purposeless discussion on the subject of Savoy; but, to any motion pointing at the conduct of the Government, they would be ready to give every opportunity for discussion; and, indeed, Lord J. Russell would on the next day present papers relating to Italy, and make a statement on the general subject.

After a few words from Mr. S. Fitzgerald, Mr. B. COCHRANE urged that there should be a discussion on the subject of China before Lord Elgin left England as our plenipotentiary.

Sir G. GREY said Lord J. Russell would make a statement on this subject on Friday. Lord Elgin was going to Paris, but not to China immediately.

Mr. BYNG brought up the address to the Throne on the treaty with France.

THE PAPER-DUTY.

On the second reading of the Bill for the Repeal of the Duty on Paper,

Sir W. MILES, who had given notice of a motion that it be read a second time that day six months, said by the course he had at first taken he meant to discuss the question of the Income-tax and the paper-duty together. If the duty on tea and sugar had been removed, and there had been no deficiency, he would have been very ready to have agreed to the repeal of the paper-duty; but he contended that this was not the proper time for the removal of that duty. If it was suffered to remain the country might have a 9*d.* instead of a 10*d.* Income-tax. He concluded by pointing out the pressure of the Income-tax, and moved as an amendment a resolution, that as the repeal of the paper-duty caused an addition of 1*d.* in the pound to the Income-tax, it was at this moment inexpedient to adopt it, which he preferred to moving the rejection of the bill.

Mr. B. STANHOPE seconded the amendment in a very lengthened and elaborate argument. Mr. NORRIS, with some minuteness and much point, argued in favour of the repeal of the duty. Mr. A. MILLS supported the amendment. Mr. BLACK contended that the extra penny of Income-tax was a more ready and economical mode of obtaining a million or so of revenue than the paper-duty. It was absolutely certain that the repeal of the duty would cause a decrease in the price of books. It often happened that an unsuccessful author who was at the expense of publishing his own work paid some 30*l.* to the excise.

Mr. MAGUIRE said that Sir W. Miles's statement that a number of paper-mills had stopped was the strongest argument against this duty, as it proved that only monopolists and very large capitalists could stand against it. It was most unfair to argue that the additional penny to the Income-tax was referable to the repeal of the paper-duty alone, and without regard to the general scheme of the budget. In Ireland, a country peculiarly adapted by its streams, and by an abundance of the raw material—(laughter)—for the manufacture of paper, this tax had pressed ruinously on the trade; out of seven mills in a district near Cork, existing within a recent period, only one now remained. There was a large smuggling trade in the article of paper going on, and especially in the inferior sorts of paper, the trade in which would be materially benefited by the remission of the duty.

Lord R. OCEIL contended that the repeal of the paper-duty would have no sensible effect upon the diffusion of knowledge and education, though it might benefit paper-makers and publishers. Why was it an untenable tax? It was increasing, not falling off. The Commissioners of Inland Revenue objected to it because of the difficult cases which were brought before them. But he looked upon their report as made to order.

Mr. M. GIBSON said, after the commercial treaty with France had been agreed to by the House, which had approved the general policy of the financial scheme of the Government, that fiscal arrangements should be made to give remissions of indirect taxation, the question now was, not between the paper-duty and the Income-tax, but between the former and some other branch of indirect taxation. Why did the Government select the paper-duty? After a careful review of our indirect taxation, they could not overlook this duty, and they found that for the last twenty-five years those who were entitled to the greatest weight in Parliament had looked forward to its repeal as an object to be accomplished as soon as possible. The resolution of the House that this duty was not to be a permanent source of our taxation was part of a long, uniform system of condemnation which the duty had received,

and the Government would have been culpable if they had given this resolution the go-by. He complained of the reflection cast by Lord R. Cecil upon the report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; the question was, he remarked, as to the truth of the report. He maintained that the report was true, and that if the duty was to be retained a bill must be introduced to define what paper was, including in the definition articles which came in competition with paper, but which now escaped the duty. The question, after all, was whether the tax itself was of that character that its retention should be desired. The production of paper was less in this country than in the United States, where there was an absence of all restrictions. What was the reason of the crippled state of the manufacture here? He believed that the Excise survey and restrictions had something to do with it. The lamentation over the want of rags was not new. He believed that the repeal of the paper-duty would create a demand for the raw material, and that a supply would meet the demand. Flax fibre and other products of the land might be applied to this purpose, and become a source of profit to the agricultural and farming interest. He showed the oppressive effects of the duty upon the cheap press, by eating up its profits, and suggested the influence which its impoverishment must exert upon its quality. In this view, the paper-duty was really a tax upon knowledge, while it operated as an obstacle to the reward and the enterprise of authors.

Mr. HORSMAN said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, having a million of taxes to remit, instead of relinquishing the tea and sugar war duties, preferred to remit the paper-duty, because it would increase employment. But so would the remission of the tea and sugar duties. The difference was that the one affected a rich class and the other the labouring classes. It was of the greatest importance—socially, morally, and politically—that the latter should receive the best wages; and, if their money payment could not be increased, the remission of the taxes on tea and sugar would enable them to buy more of these articles, or to raise themselves in the social scale. The question, then, was whether most benefit would be conferred by remitting the tea and sugar duties, or the paper-duty. He said the object would be best attained by remitting the former, and he warned the House of the false principle and the mischievous precedent they were establishing. They could not rest here. Fresh demands would be made for other remissions; a premium would be given for the agitation of classes. This small precedent of filling up a deficiency by a remission of an indirect tax, and laying on a direct tax—shifting the whole burden of taxation upon one class—would effect a complete fiscal revolution. He concluded a speech replete with point and sarcasm with some severe remarks, approaching to acrimony, directed against Mr. Gladstone, and by denouncing the bill as a flagrant abandonment of the principles of Sir Robert Peel.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, after a temperate notice of the invective of Mr. Horsman, professed not to understand the vote he intended to give; whether he considered that the Government had made a bad choice in the tax they proposed to remit; otherwise his speech, he said, tended only to bewilder. He admitted that the remission of the war duties on tea and sugar would afford great relief, but the decision of the Government in favour of the paper-duty was founded upon a careful examination of conflicting claims. He denied that this was a concession to the rich, and he showed that the effect of the excise on paper checked the manufacture of the article, and operated as a positive prohibition of experiments that would create new trades for the employment of labour. He insisted that the repeal of the paper-duty was in the spirit of the policy of Sir Robert Peel, and that paper had a stronger claim than glass, the excise upon which had been repealed by him. The paper-duty burdened the trade in all its branches, and its effect was to create a chain of monopolies, or a system of narrow and exclusive trading, between the making of paper and the selling of books. The resolution moved by Sir W. Miles, however, dealt with two different questions, and called upon the House to vote not only that the paper-duty should not be repealed, but that there should be no addition to the Income-tax; but he contended that they could not be combined. The Income-tax had many vices, but it had one virtue—that, in the main, it did make the property of the country subservient to the uses of the State for beneficial purposes.

Sir J. PAKINGTON denied that the House had been under any engagement that, on the falling in of the Long Annuities, the amount should be applied to the reduction of indirect taxes; the understanding was that it should go towards the repeal of the Income-tax. He implored the House to recollect that the budget had done nothing for the working classes or for the holders of small incomes.

The House divided. The numbers were—
For the second reading ... 245
Against ... 192
Majority for the Government. —53

The bill was then read a second time.

The House went into committee, when

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that it was expedient to bring in a Bill to regulate the licensing of refreshment houses and the granting of wine licences.

The resolution was agreed to, and the House resumed.

The House adjourned at five minutes before two o'clock.

THE DIVISION UPON THE TREATY.

The following are the fifty-six members who voted for Mr. Horsman's Amendment to add to the Address the words—"But humbly to represent to her Majesty that in the opinion of this House Article XI. imposes on the Crown and Legislature of the country unnecessary and impolitic restrictions, to which this House cannot assent; and to pray her Majesty to effect the omission of that article from the treaty."—Messrs. W. Beach, G. C. Bentinck, J. R. Bond, W. Bovill, Sir B. Bridges, Mr. Brooks, Lord Burghley, Mr. A. D. Cochrane, Viscount Curzon, Messrs. S. D. Damer, R. Dawson, Colonel Dickson, Messrs. W. E. Duncombe, J. Dunn, Major Edwards, Sir P. G. Egerton, Sir J. D. Elphinstone, Sir J. Fergusson, Messrs. R. S. Gard, J. George, J. R. Gore, J. Green, E. B. Hartopp, J. P. Hennessy, Lord Henniker, Messrs. R. C. Hill, J. G. Hubbard, Viscount Ingestre, Messrs. J. K. King, R. Knightley, Sir H. Leeke, Messrs. R. P. Long, F. Lygon, Lord J. Manners, Messrs. C. N. Newdegate, W. Nicol, Colonel North, Sir J. Pakington, Mr. R. W. Palmer, Major W. Parker, Mr. G. M. Peacocke, Viscount Pevensey, Sir M. W. Ridley, Messrs. J. J. Rogers, A. Smith, R. Spooner, W. Stirling, A. Stuart, W. C. Talbot, Lord E. Thynne, C. H. Trefusis, Viscount Valletort, J. Vance, W. Vansittart, L. V. Vernon, A. E. Way. Tellers, Messrs. Horsman and G. W. P. Bentinck.

Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Henley, Sir E. B. Lytton, General Peel, and Lord Stanley, members of the Derby Cabinet, absented themselves from the division. Sir J. Pakington and Lord John Manners voted for the amendment.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE DOVER ELECTION INQUIRY terminated on Thursday, and the decision was favourable to the two sitting members, Sir J. Leeke and Mr. W. Nicol. The committee, however, declared it had been proved that certain persons, whose names are mentioned, had been bribed, although it had not been proved that such bribery had been committed with the knowledge or consent of the sitting members. They further declared that the allegations contained in the petition, that certain ministers or servants of the Crown had interfered with the election, were not proved to the satisfaction of the committee. Costs were applied for on the part of the sitting members, but refused.

NORWICH.—The Election Committee in this case decided on Saturday that Lord Bury was not duly elected. Norwich has, in consequence, been thrown into a state of considerable excitement. Mr. Henry Birbeck is mentioned as the probable Liberal candidate, as it is believed he would secure more united support than Mr. Warner.

WEST SURREY.—The election of a member for West Surrey, in the place of Mr. Henry Drummond, took place on Saturday. No candidate appeared to oppose the return of Mr. George Cubitt. That gentleman, after he had been declared duly elected, delivered a brief speech, in which he stated that, although he was a Conservative, he should give no factious opposition to the present Government. He believed they would not perish from the assaults of their opponents, but would fall to pieces from disunion among themselves. He could not believe that Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell could ever cordially agree. Was there perfect accord between the member for Oxford—that orthodox champion of the Church—and the Manchester school by whom the union of Church and State had been described in language so coarse he would not repeat it there? He intimated his intention to oppose the proposal for depriving Guildford of a member.

WORCESTER.—On Monday Mr. Alderman Padmore was elected for this vacancy without opposition. Mr. Wood, the returning-officer (sheriff of the city), said that about forty years ago he and Mr. Padmore came to Worcester as working men with their aprons on. He simply stated that fact in order that the working classes might see that it was possible for working men to raise themselves to high positions. He then declared Mr. Padmore duly elected, amidst loud cheers. Mr. Padmore, in the course of his speech, said they were aware that at this moment there were very important measures before Parliament. The Reform Bill, which was one of these, should have his most strenuous advocacy. He considered that the working man who rented a 6*l.* house was as worthy of a vote as the man who paid 20*l.* (Cheers.) What would the country do without the working man? The taxes of this country were enormous, and, as far as he could, he would take care that they should devolve on those who could best afford to pay them. (Loud cheers.) So far as taxing articles which the poor man consumed, he would do all he could to mitigate that. He would also do what he could to lessen the national expenditure.

REPRESENTATION OF STALYBRIDGE.—There are many rumours flying about as to various gentlemen likely to be put in nomination to represent the new borough of Stalybridge, as soon as the Reform Bill is passed into law. Our correspondent has heard the following gentlemen named as likely to be put in nomination:—John Cheetham, Esq., late member for South Lancashire; Robert Platt, Esq., cotton manufacturer, Stalybridge; F. D. P. Astley, Esq., lord of the manor of Dukinfield; and Mr. Stephens, of Stalybridge. One gentleman, from the south, is already in the field, and has issued an address "to the inhabitants of Stalybridge." The gentleman alluded to is Mr. J. C. Marshman, of 7, Kensington Palace Gardens, London, who is an advanced Liberal.—*Manchester Guardian*.

LORD CAMPDEN AND THE CORK ELECTION.—Lord Campden has published an address to the electors of the county of Cork disclaiming all responsibility in the matter of his recent nomination, and denying that he was cognisant of the election address bearing his name which was published. Mr. John George McCarthy, the agent who was supposed to have been conducting the late election for Cork on behalf of Lord Campden, has put forward an elaborate explanation of his connexion

with the mysterious transaction. He heard with astonishment that Lord Campden had denied any knowledge of the late proceedings. On the Wednesday preceding the nomination it was intimated to him that he might expect a letter or telegram from Mr. John P. Hennessy, M.P., authorising him to act as conducting agent for an English Catholic nobleman, who had been invited to contest Cork county on Catholic and independent principles. He received such a telegram in due course, and Mr. Hennessy subsequently arrived, announcing himself publicly as the representative of Lord Campden, and as such was called on to address, and did address, the electors. Mr. McCarthy makes no doubt that Mr. Hennessy will vindicate his honour. He (Mr. McCarthy) has a telegram from Lord Campden, addressed to himself, and couched in the following terms:—"Important circumstances prevent my leaving London immediately. I shall present myself as early as possible—am deeply sensible of the high honour of being chosen to represent so sacred a cause. I love Ireland and the Irish people. If elected for the great county of Cork, I shall gladly accept the trust, and cordially devote myself to their service."

ROSCOMMON ELECTION.—The unseated member (Captain Goff) has issued an address to the immaculate constituency which returned him at the general election, requesting them to transfer their favour and affection to his brother, an officer in the 3rd Light Dragoons, at present stationed in Dublin. Mr. Tenison, the Whig candidate, and lieutenant of the county, who stood on the last occasion, withdraws his claim for the present, in order to prevent any division in the ranks of the Liberals.

THE SECOND BLUE BOOK ON ITALY.

(Abridged from the *Times*.)

A Second Part of the "Correspondence relating to the Affairs of Italy," which brings down the diplomacy of Europe upon this subject to within a fortnight of the present date [March 9], has been published. The last despatch, dated the 24th of February, from Lord Cowley to Lord John Russell, thus describes the present condition of the Italian question:—

M. Thouvenel mentioned to me yesterday that, whether the proposals of her Majesty's Government for the settlement of Italy were to be accepted in their entirety or not, her Majesty's Government had rendered an immense service to the Italian cause in making them, since the Imperial Government had thus been enabled to enter into explanations with the Austrian Government, and loyally and honourably to free themselves from engagements which it had become impossible to fulfil.

Such is the last ascertained phase. The Emperor of the French considers himself honourably freed from the conditions of Villafranca and Zurich by the operation of the English propositions. We offer no opinion; we are merely abbreviating State papers. We go on to show how this result was arrived at by a process which the volume before us develops in sixty-four pages. On the 15th of January Lord John Russell pointed out in a despatch to Lord Cowley that there was no hope from a Congress, because—"Between the doctrine that it will be the duty of a Congress to restore the authority of the Pope in the Romagna, and the doctrine that no force ought to be used to impose a Government or constitution on the people of Central Italy, there can be no agreement." Upon this very shrewd and practical conclusion the English Minister bases a hope that the crisis is favourable for an unity of policy between the English and French Governments, and he thereupon makes those four celebrated propositions, which have, more or less accurately, been made known and discussed.

The first is, that France and Austria shall agree not to interfere, for the future, by force in the internal affairs of Italy, unless called upon by the Five Great Powers.

The second, that the French troops shall evacuate Rome.

The third, that the internal government of Venetia shall not be matter of European negotiation.

The fourth, that, should the decision of the States of Central Italy be in favour of annexation, Great Britain and France will permit Sardinia to enter those States in force.

This is the pith of the English propositions which Lord Cowley submitted to M. Thouvenel. On the 27th of last month Lord Cowley could report that the French Minister had accepted the first point, of non-interference, as a mere reiteration of the declared policy of France; that, as to the evacuation of Italy, France was anxious to do so when the moment was opportune; that as to the proposition relating to Venetia, the Emperor agreed, with an unimportant reservation, to the English suggestion; and that, as to the fourth and principal article, the Emperor personally considered that the English proposition, "that the future destinies of the States of Central Italy should be ascertained through the Assemblies," was equitable and practical, but that he thought himself bound in honour to previously set himself right with Austria in respect of the Peace of Villafranca, and to make explanations to the Powers which had been invited to the now countermanded Congress. Such were the propositions, and such the French answer. These despatches would seem to offer that clue to the intentions of the Emperor of the French which Lord Malmesbury on Friday night despaired of discovering. The Emperor was inclined to accept the English propositions, "provided he could make them accord with his own situation with the Court of Austria on the one side and with Prussia and Russia on the other." On the 30th of January Lord John Russell received an assurance from the Court of Austria, "that the Imperial Cabinet had no intention of interfering by force of arms in the Italian

States." Other information appears in the correspondence that Austrian officers, whose names are given, and Austrian troops, who numbered 383 in less than a fortnight, were passing from Trieste to Ancona, to take service with the Pope; but so far as regular war is concerned the Austrian Minister's promise is decisive, that, whatever may happen in ten, or even in five years, Austria has no present intention of going beyond her own frontiers. It is upon this that France declares that circumstances have released her from her Villafranca engagements, by rendering their fulfilment impossible.

One noticeable point in this correspondence is the asperity of Austria in reference to Sardinia. The correspondence begins with a display of temper on the part of Count Rechberg, who "animadverts in strong terms on the continued attempts of the Sardinian Government to incite the population of Venetia and the Southern Tyrol to throw off their allegiance to Austria." The Austrian Minister actually believes that Count Cavour had proposed to an influential person in the Southern Tyrol to assist in getting up a demonstration in favour of the annexation of that province to Sardinia. That this experienced and acute politician should listen to such tales, and actually relate them to the British Minister at Vienna, shows to what a point the Austrians have allowed their exasperation to carry them.

There is no doubt that the Austrian Government has represented to our own that Austria was not prepared to make any forcible intervention in Italy, and that, even if she desired it, she did not at present possess the power. Lord John Russell, quoting from a despatch of Lord Augustus Loftus, says:—

"In your reply you stated, 'With reference to the struggle which in the event of a restoration of the Archduke would be constantly recurring by the Italian people to acquire the independence of which they had had a temporary enjoyment, and to the efforts which Austria would make to preserve or regain that ascendancy in Italy which she had lost, Count Rechberg stated it was an error to suppose that Austria was striving or anxious to regain that ascendancy, or to exercise an influence in Italy; he could honestly declare that Austria had no such wish; that the costly experience of the past had given her a salutary lesson in this respect, and that she neither entertained the wish nor the intention of interfering in Italian affairs.' Encouraged by these sentiments," says Lord John Russell, "her Majesty's Government venture to hope that propositions to the following effect might be accepted by the Emperor of Austria."

And then come the well-known four propositions.

A despatch from Lord Cowley, dated January 27, contains some important information as to the intentions of the French Government. That France should assent to the principle of binding herself from armed interference in Italy is something, though such is the moral influence of the French Emperor at the present time that 50,000 soldiers would add but little to his power. A more practical matter, however, is the occupation of Rome by the French, and a statement that this occupation is about to cease must be considered of the highest importance. In commenting on Lord John Russell's propositions, M. Thouvenel is reported to have said:—

He did not think the present moment opportune for mooted this question at Rome, but that he had nevertheless received the Emperor's orders to inform the Pontifical Government that their attention would shortly be called to this matter, with the view of examining the means by which the early evacuation of the Papal States by the troops of France might be secured.

After all, this is an important admission, and it will be the duty of the British Government to press on its ally the accomplishment of this act of international justice.

By the end of January the French Government had resolved on communicating to Austria its determination to have no part in restoring the Pope and the banished Dukes. In the despatch numbered 34 M. Thouvenel writes to the Marquis de Moustier to this effect:—

I will say nothing that can surprise Austria, and still less would I allow a single word to escape capable of offending her. But could that Power have been charged to proceed to the restoration of the dispossessed dynasties without the result of the war being annihilated and its object disavowed? Could France in her turn, without violating her principles, do violence to the populations? I leave to the candour of Count Rechberg the task of replying to these questions. Thus, in the two cases there was a moral impossibility of acting.

In accordance with the spirit of this document is the despatch numbered 49, addressed by M. Thouvenel to M. de Persigny. Here the French statesman shows, first, that France has no desire to trespass on the spiritual authority of the Pope; and, secondly, that even his territorial authority is not violated in any extraordinary manner by the proceedings in the Romagna, inasmuch as in quite recent times the condition of this very province has been brought under the notice of Europe, and portions of the Pope's domains have been over and over again alienated. M. Thouvenel cites a secret treaty, signed at Naples on the 11th of January, 1814, by which the Emperor Francis, with a view of attaching King Joachim to the cause of the European coalition, engaged, "in order to procure him a strong military frontier in accord with the political necessities of the two Powers, to assure him an acquisition calculated on the basis of 400,000 souls, to be taken from the Roman States, and to lend his good offices to obtain the consent and sanction of the Holy Father to that concession." So much for the outcry about sacrilege which has been raised by the Austrian press. In this despatch of M. Thouvenel the whole case of the Romagna is plainly stated; and, whatever may be the final action of France, it is impossible to doubt that the convictions

of the Court and Cabinet are against any reinstatement of the Papal authority.

On February 17 Count Rechberg answers M. Thouvenel's despatch by one to Prince Metternich, the Austrian representative in Paris. This document is temperate enough. The Viennese Government—

Deeply deploring seeing a treaty lately concluded between ourselves and France remain without effect in respect to stipulations of a high degree of importance. If the restoration is not effected it is well understood that the plan of a confederation will also remain a dead letter. "What are the obstacles," asks Count Rechberg, "before which the generous intentions of the two Emperors are destined to fail? Without wishing to overlook them we are far from considering them as insurmountable as they appear to the mind of M. Thouvenel."

The correspondence closes with M. Thouvenel's despatch on the English propositions which has been already given to the world.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

THE POPE'S REPLY.

The reply of the Holy See to the last proposals of France has arrived in Paris. The Pope declines the proposition to confine within an exclusive political compass a question which, as it concerns the integrity of the patrimony of St. Peter, is intimately bound up with the independence of the Church. Although decidedly rejecting the proposition to create a Vicariate of the Romagna in favour of a foreign sovereign, his Holiness shows himself disposed to enter into the path of reform on condition that the integrity of the States of the Church is guaranteed.

Count Cavour's despatch, dated the 1st March, has been published in the *Moniteur*, but people have been somewhat astonished to remark that a passage is left out, containing the Count's reservation of the right of the Sardinian representation to control the foreign policy of his Government, which has appeared in the publication of it in the Turin papers. It is said that M. de Thouvenel has refused to receive the despatch while containing this reservation, and that, therefore, the Sardinian ambassador, Signor Nigra, has been obliged to leave out this passage from the copy he was directed to leave with him.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes an article, signed by M. Grandguillot, headed "Universal Suffrage and Public Order in Europe." M. Grandguillot thinks it necessary to explain the limits of the doctrine of national sovereignty, now invoked against Imperial policy, to the advantage of the combinations which his Majesty cannot protest against, although prepared without his inspirations. It is necessary to show how a false extension of those principles may become an incessant source of troubles and dangers to Europe. Universal suffrage can only be applied to the internal affairs of a country, and cannot serve to modify the exercise of the sovereign power in relation to foreign affairs, nor for the aggrandisement of a territory. M. Grandguillot vindicates the French policy from the charge of being identified with acts as little conformable to the counsels given by France as to public right in Europe.

The *Silole* has received a warning for an article of M. Jourdan, published in its number of Friday last.

The *Pays* publishes an article signed by "M. Grunier de Cassagnac," on the manner in which the project of the annexation of Savoy and Nice has been discussed in the English Parliament. M. de Cassagnac calls to mind that France left England full liberty to take and fortify Perim because England had to protect her interests in the East, and says France is now in a similar position in regard to Savoy and Nice, and he cannot understand why such noisy discussions (*cris d'armes*) take place in the English Parliament, which might compromise the alliance between the two countries. We must understand that the Emperor has not frivolously demanded a modification in the French frontier which the aggrandisement of Sardinia has rendered indispensable. He will take into consideration the disposition of the inhabitants and the estimation of Europe, but it would be unreasonable to suppose that the Emperor would renounce that which regards the security of one of the most important frontiers of the Empire.

The *Patrie* publishes an article against a division of Savoy, in which it declares that the annexation of Chablais and Faucigny to Switzerland is impossible.

Father Lacordaire has been received by the Emperor as a newly-elected member of the Academy. The ceremony took place on Sunday week. The celebrated Dominican was introduced by his academic sponsors, M. Guizot and M. de Falloux. The Emperor conversed for a long while with the latter, who was for a long time his Minister of Public Instruction when he was President of the Republic. The following is a version of what subsequently took place:—

The Emperor, having heard the announcement by M. de Falloux of Father Lacordaire's election, observed quietly that he was sorry to hear that the election was decided upon, because it was thought it would be personally disagreeable to him. M. de Falloux replied that the Academy, in making their choice, had in view merely the reward of most eminent talent, or high and dignified character and bearing. The Emperor admitted that the eminent talent of Father Lacordaire could not be disputed. The Emperor then turned the conversation on the state of Italy, and complained of the manner in which the clergy were acting in this regard. M. de Falloux respectfully suggested that the clergy must

have the strongest conviction of the justice of their cause, inasmuch as some—for instance, the Bishop of Arras and the Archbishop of Rennes, the most complying members of the Episcopacy, and the most devoted to the Emperor—had thought it incumbent on them to take the same view respecting the temporal rights of the Pope. There was some further conversation on the Romagna, the Vicariate, &c. It is certain, however, that the Emperor was most polite and kind in his bearing all through; that he shook M. de Falloux in a very friendly manner by the hand, and said, in parting, that he hoped he should soon see him again, or words to that effect.

SAVOY.

The *Courrier des Alpes* of Chambéry announces that the departure of the conscripts called under arms for the present year has been postponed so far as regards Savoy.

The same journal publishes a supplement announcing, upon information obtained from an official source, that Savoy will not be dismembered, but will form two departments, and will preserve the Court of Appeal at Chambéry.

The Tuscan correspondent of the *Times* says that the Italians will consider themselves well rid of Savoyards. They were strangers in the Sardinian Parliament; they would do nothing in the national Italian movement, and would not pull together with their fellow-subjects when they found the pretensions of the Papacy incompatible with their new liberal institutions.

The Paris papers publish the following, dated Antibes, 12th March:—"The attempted Italian manifestation in Nice has failed. Only 500 persons were present, nearly all of whom were Italian employees and children. The annexation to France is impatiently awaited."

PIEDMONT AND LOMBARDY.

REPLY OF COUNT CAVOUR TO THE FRENCH PROPOSALS.

A note from Count Cavour, addressed to M. de Nigra at Paris, dated 29th February, in reply to the despatch of M. Thouvenel to Baron Talleyrand, has been published. As the proposals, it says, originate with a Government which has so much right to expect the gratitude of Sardinia, the Sardinian Cabinet is naturally disposed to give them the most favourable reception. But the Government of his Majesty is nevertheless convinced that these proposals would meet with serious difficulties in their execution, which it would not be in the power of the Sardinian Government to vanquish. The solution proposed is much more advantageous for Italy than it was possible to expect immediately after the peace at Villafranca. At that time this solution would have been accepted by Central Italy without much reluctance. It is not the case at the present moment. The feeling of the populations of Central Italy in regard to their right to be the arbiters of their own destiny has been strongly developed and strengthened, in consequence of the formally repeated assurances of the Emperor's Government, to the effect that no special form of government would be imposed upon them by force. The Sardinian Cabinet will transmit the proposals of France to Central Italy, the Government of which country will probably consult the nation by means of universal and secret suffrage, the result of which could not by any means be contested.

The proposal of a vicariate, which is contained in the message of M. Thouvenel, involves the direct interference of the Papal Government in the interior administration, and would meet with absolute resistance on the part of the inhabitants of the Romagna. The Pope also, on his part, would probably give this proposal a less favourable reception than were the question to treat of the absolute separation of the provinces from his dominions. Count Cavour believes that the object of France would be obtained if the annexation were to take place, on the conditions imposed on the King of Sardinia, to recognise the superior sovereignty of the Pope; and to engage himself to co-operate, even by an armed force, in maintaining the independence of the Holy See, and in contributing to a certain degree to the expenses of the Court of Rome. In order to obtain a more sincere manifestation of the wishes of the inhabitants, Count Cavour believes that the Government of the Romagna ought not to make express mention of the vicariate in the propositions submitted to universal suffrage.

The proposition relative to Tuscany cannot be equivocal in the form in which it will be presented to the popular vote. If the people of Tuscany pronounce for the preservation of their political autonomy, Sardinia would freely assist them to surmount the obstacles which might offer to such a solution. The Government would act in a similar manner in regard to Parma, Modena, and the Romagna; if, on the contrary, the Provinces manifest once more in a decided manner a determined will to be united to Piedmont we should not know how to oppose it any longer. Even if we should wish to do so we could not.

Accepting beforehand the eventuality of the annexation, the Government of the King takes upon itself the immense responsibility of it. He is convinced that if he rejects the demand of Tuscany for annexation, the Cabinet of the King would lose all moral authority in Italy, and would find itself reduced to govern by force. Rather than compromise the great work of regeneration for which France makes such sacrifices, the honour and interests of our country advise the King and his Government to expose themselves to themselves to the most perilous risks.

Count Cavour adds some reflection on the proposition to restore to Tuscany her autonomy. Count Cavour reserves for another despatch the consideration of the arguments which do not relate to Central Italy, and concludes by stating that the reasons set forth will prove to M. Thouvenel that we cannot defend the solution which he proposes.

SAVOY AND NICE.

The *Opinion* of Turin publishes Count Cavour's note of the 2nd of March, relative to the question of Savoy and Nice. In this note Count Cavour recalls the declarations contained in the despatches of M. Thouvenel, and declares himself far from believing that the aggrandisement of Sardinia could ever constitute a danger to France, to whom the late events attach her by the bonds of gratitude and friendship. "Nevertheless," Count Cavour says, "we are too sensible of what Italy owes to the Emperor not to give our serious attention to a demand which rests upon the respect due to the population."

"The Government of the King would never consent, even with a prospect of great advantages, to cede or exchange any part of the territory which for many centuries has formed a glorious appanage to the house of Savoy; but the Government of the King cannot refuse to take into consideration the changes which the events in Italy have produced in the situation of the population of Savoy and Nice."

"At the moment when we demand for the inhabitants of Central Italy the right to dispose of their destiny we expose ourselves to a charge of inconsistency and injustice if we refuse to the subjects of the King dwelling on the other side of the Alps the right to freely manifest their wishes. However deep the regrets we should feel if the provinces, the cradle of the Piedmontese monarchy, decided upon demanding a separation, we should not refuse to recognise the weight of a manifestation, however slight, if made in conformity with the prescription of Parliament," Count Cavour says farther that the declarations of M. Thouvenel relative to the Great Powers and Switzerland foresee a false interpretation of the motives which guide the conduct of the Government, the removal of which could only be effected with great difficulty. These declarations being inspired by high sentiments of equity and justice leave no cause to doubt that in any hypothesis anxiety to leave proper frontiers to France and Sardinia would direct any negotiations on the question.

THE FRENCH REPLIES.

Baron Talleyrand has delivered to Count Cavour another despatch of M. Thouvenel which replies to Count Cavour's despatches of the 1st and 3rd inst. M. Thouvenel points out the essential difference which exists between the question of the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont and that of the annexation of Savoy to France, and says that the principal difficulty which opposes the first is to obtain the recognition by Europe, which has guaranteed the possession of Tuscany to the dynasty of Lorraine. In the latter this difficulty disappears in the presence of the arrangement between France and Sardinia relative to the spontaneous cession of Savoy; consequently the Emperor of the French requests the regulation of the question of Savoy by a simple cession, to be settled by mutual consent, and without having recourse to universal suffrage. M. Thouvenel thinks that to become acquainted with the wish of the country it would suffice to consult the municipalities of Savoy. As regards the annexation of Tuscany, M. Thouvenel repeats that France could not follow Piedmont in a perilous course. If King Victor Emmanuel accepts the annexation of Tuscany, he would necessarily remain exposed to the risks of such a policy without being able to reckon upon the support of France.

The municipality of Milan have unanimously adopted an address to the King expressing the devotion of the country to his Majesty, and their confidence in the national line of policy pursued by the Government of the King in reference to Central Italy. In their address the municipality further state their resolution to support such a policy, and, as a token of their firm resolution, they offer to the King 3,000,000*l.* The municipality of Lodi are preparing to take a similar resolution. Other adhesions are expected.

The Florence correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

Piedmont and Italy, and no doubt France with them, are putting their might together for a final struggle, should their enemies be tempted to a new appeal to arms. The French are gathering 60,000 strong round Pavia; the Piedmontese are calling out their contingents, and are mustering all their might between Alessandria and Casale. Central Italy, and especially the Emilia, are also making ready to rise in arms. Let annexation only be accepted as a *fait accompli*, and there is no doubt but a new and a final struggle to settle the destinies of Venetia will then suit Italy far better than the convocation of a Parliament.

A letter from Turin, in the *Union*, says:—

Military preparations are continuing to be made with incessant activity. A new credit equal to 14,000,000*l.* has been granted to the Ministry of War, making altogether 40,000,000*l.* Large orders for wheat and biscuit have been given, and they are required to be executed by the 20th of March. The brigade of Pavia is being organised with all possible haste, from the 1st of this month commanding-officers of regiments have not been allowed to grant any leave of absence. The regiment of Guides, consisting of five squadrons, is to be ready by the end of March. The number of officers of the army has been increased by 15 new colonels or generals, 120 captains, and 240 lieutenants. Lastly, eight batteries of rifled cannon have been prepared.

The *Perseveranza* of Milan announces that an order reached Marshal Vaillant on Monday evening to hold his army ready to effect a movement. The report was current that the army was about to return to France. It is, perhaps, no more than a threat at present.

A letter from Florence says:—

The annexation, if decreed, will be the signal for the hunders of the Vatican to open. It is positively stated that the bulls of excommunication against Victor Emmanuel are ready to be launched! Whether there are any other parties comprised in the sentence I cannot say.

CENTRAL ITALY.

THE VOTE ON ANNEXATION.

The following telegrams have been received:—

FLORENCE, March 10.

The clergy of the towns of Tuscany intend to inaugurate the vote by religious ceremonies. Perfect order prevails everywhere, and the enthusiasm is extraordinary.

FLORENCE, March 11.

The number of people assembled to vote has been very great, and perfect order has prevailed. Out of 32,000 persons inscribed on the lists in Florence, about 15,000 voted to-day. The streets are decorated with French and Italian flags. An address to the King has been signed by the clergy. The peasants, headed by their curés, are on their way to the voting places and maintain admirable order. The people are everywhere enthusiastic and full of confidence, and their attitude is excellent.

MODENA, March 10.

General Wildenbruch has arrived here. Crowds of peasants, displaying flags, are arriving from all parts of the provinces, in order to be inscribed in the lists of the approaching suffrage. The same enthusiasm prevails throughout the Æmilian provinces. The Modenese clergy have addressed a petition to the Governor, expressing their wish for annexation to Piedmont. The clergy of Piacenza have transmitted an address to the Intendant-General, accompanied by a letter to the King, in which they say that the duty of the clergy is to give an example in acts of patriotism.

MODENA, March 11.

In all the towns of the Æmilian Provinces the number of people assembled to vote is extraordinary.

In the country the clergy are conducting the population to vote for the annexation.

The *Patrie* publishes the following message, dated Bologna, March 12:—

An almost perfect unanimity of suffrages for annexation to Piedmont is reckoned upon in the Romagna.

A calculation of the *Patrie* demonstrates that the Piedmontese army, when united to that of Central Italy, will number 200,000 men.

THE PAPAL STATES.

A deputation of students has been received by General Goyon, who delivered a written reply, exhorting them to resume their studies, and expressing his resolution to support the public authorities by all means at his disposal in order to maintain the observance of the laws.

The following despatch has been published:—

RIMINI, March 7.

The agitation and manifestations in Ancona and Jesi continue. After the refusal of the population to pay the taxes, a military council has been assembled in Ancona, at which General Kalbermatten presided. A resolution was adopted to act in all cases energetically against the town, and to resist all further assaults if any should take place. The equipment of the troops, including the munition and the baggage of the officers and the delegates, has left Pesaro.

NAPLES.

A Royal decree establishes modifications of 240 articles of the Customs' tariff, and orders that the revision of the remaining part should be continued by the Commission.

Another Commission has been entrusted with a projected extension of the metropolis. The Government pretends to have discovered a conspiracy on the 1st of March last. Several individuals belonging to different classes have been arrested. Some of them have received their passports and have left Naples, others are still expecting a decision; among the latter the son-in-law of Signor Settembrino may be especially mentioned.

AUSTRIA.

The Imperial patent respecting the constitution of the Council of the Empire has produced but little impression on the Vienna public, it being of opinion that it matters not whether the Council of the Empire is composed of twelve or of seventy members, if all of them are to be the nominees of the Crown.—*Letter from Vienna.*

The draught of the constitution of the Protestant Church in the German and Slavonic provinces of the Austrian empire is completed, and an Imperial patent on the subject is likely soon to appear. The principle established is, that the Protestant Church in Austria shall have a Presbyterian form of government. There will, however, be a so-called "Supreme Ecclesiastical Court" (Consistory), to which the Protestants will be responsible for their doings.

The official *Wiener Zeitung* announces that General Eynatten, in spite of all precautions, committed suicide on Wednesday night, after having confessed his guilt, and expressed his repentance for it. [The deceased was at the head of the commissariat department of the Austrian army during the late Italian campaign, and while in that capacity so shamefully abused for his own profit the trust reposed in him, that when the circumstance became known to the Government an investigation into his conduct at once took place. The delinquent would probably have been executed by military law, and it was, doubtless, to avoid the ignominy of a public death that he put an end to his existence.]

It is stated that, although declaring an intention to maintain a passive attitude if the Emperor Napoleon persists in the realisation of his wish for the annexation of Savoy, Austria has nevertheless notified to our Government that she has already in-

formed the Court of the Tuileries that if ever the Rhine frontiers should be menaced she would immediately unite with Prussia for the protection of the territorial integrity of the Germanic Confederation.

GERMANY.

In Thursday's sitting of the Federal Diet, the proposals of the Holstein Committee were accepted. In the discussion which preceded the adoption of the proposals, the Danish Ambassador protested against any limitation of the sovereignty of the King, against the right of the Holstein Diet to pass definitive resolutions, and against the right of the Federal Diet to send execution troops. He further declared the readiness of the King to give up the projected assembly of delegates, and stated that the Danish Government prefers to treat direct with the Diets.

The German press, for the most part, speaks unfavourably of the Emperor Napoleon's speech. What appears to have principally attracted its attention in the speech is the passage relative to Savoy; and that has excited much apprehension. The Prussian journals, without exception, employ language openly hostile; but the Austrian press is somewhat more reserved.

A letter from Berlin of the 7th inst. informs us that the Prince Regent is fully determined to employ all the legal means at his disposal to accomplish the reorganisation of the Prussian army. It is believed that he will succeed, although the new organisation will press severely on the people, who are already heavily taxed.

TURKEY.

Sir Henry Bulwer will shortly proceed to England on family affairs.

The Western Powers have made proposals to the Porte to assist in the maintenance of its rights in Servia and the Danubian Principalities, should any complications and an armed intervention take place there. It is stated that the Porte has requested a treaty of alliance with them for certain emergencies.

AMERICA.

Nothing important has transpired relative to the loss of the Hungarian, but it is certain that not a single person was saved. No additional bodies had been found, but fifteen mail-bags and many loose letters had been recovered.

The Senate was discussing the treaty with Mexico. Senator Seward has made a great speech in favour of the admission of Kansas into the Union. The Senate had called upon the President for a copy of any report which may have been made by the commissioners for marking the boundary between the United States and the British territory.

Notwithstanding the Governor's veto, the bill abolishing slavery had again been passed in the Legislature of Kansas.

The English Minister in Nicaragua had negotiated a treaty with President Martinez, having for its object the gradual extinction of the protectorate over Mosquito, the king of which is to be pensioned by Nicaragua.

The Canadian Parliament was opened at Quebec on the 29th ult. In his speech, the Governor-General announced that the Prince of Wales will visit Canada in the ensuing summer. He also congratulated the Parliament on surmounting the financial difficulties, and on the consolidation of the public debt.

A lengthy address from the Reform Association of Toronto, Canada, had been published. It advocates a dissolution of the Union and the establishment of two or more provinces, with local Legislatures, a central authority to administer matters common to the whole country, and a written constitution.

The New Orleans correspondent of the *New York Herald* gives an outline of a scheme for the acquisition of Mexico, and states as probable that General Houston is now en route for Rio Grande, backed by a large force of Texans, to carry the scheme into execution.

WESTERN AFRICA.

It is stated that the decided hostility shown the ships engaged in the Niger expedition is attributable to jealousy of the enterprise on the part of those native tribes who occupy the territory between the interior and the mouth of the Niger, and who, from their position, are enabled to realise considerable profits. It is through them that goods and produce pass between the fertile countries of the interior and the large Liverpool ships that lie trading in the rivers.

The *West African Herald* states that the agricultural society of the eastern district was in full operation, under the general direction of Mr. Thomas B. Freeman, chief civil commandant of the eastern district.

The news from Fernando Po is rather meagre. The island continued healthy, but trade was dull. A Cameroons trade was dull, and the place was tranquil—no fresh disturbances having occurred among the native tribes. Old Calabar was healthy. Her Britannic Majesty's consul from Fernando Po visited the place towards the end of January, in her Majesty's screw-steamer Spitfire, in order to settle some misunderstanding which had existed between one of the supercargoes and certain native traders. The matters were ultimately satisfactorily arranged. The natives at Bonny were again in a disturbed state, and Consul Hutchinson had been there in the Spitfire to settle the question by a "palaver" with the principal chiefs. The port was full of shipping. At New Calabar trade was quiet, but the place was healthy. Trade was dull at Benin. The general health of the place was good.

At Lagos trade was dull. The weather was fine, and the bar very good. The colony of Acra was healthy, but trade was dull. The trade at Sierra Leone was reviving, and the weather was fine. Yellow fever, which had been prevalent amongst the shipping, had disappeared. Thirty-four deaths are reported to have occurred in the harbour. The settlement was healthy.

INDIA.

Mr. Wilson made his financial statement on the 18th of February. The deficit is about nine millions. He proposes a trade licence of from 2s. to 20s. yearly; a tax upon incomes of from 240l. to 600l. at two per cent., and above that at four per cent., with no exemption. A large duty upon tobacco. The tariff is to be modified. There will be no loan.

AUSTRALIA.

The overland summary of the *Melbourne Argus*, of the 17th January, states that the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce has agreed to recommend to the Government the proposition of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, to alter the route of the mail steamers from Mauritius to Point de Galle, and to give a fortnightly service for an additional subsidy of 25,000l. a year. The proposed route will bring the Australians into more direct connexion with India and our Eastern possessions.

The volunteer movement is progressing. An order from the War-office, directing an immediate discharge of all soldiers from the 40th Regiment, who have served a term of ten years, has caused much dissatisfaction among the colonists. The number of men to be withdrawn would not amount to more than seventy or eighty, but they could ill be spared.

At Lamplough diggings, in the Avoca district, the miners, some 20,000 in number, are making large earnings. The gold-fields generally promise well. The companies have done little. The share mania was at an end some time since.

The agricultural season has been very prosperous. The grain is good, the returns above the average. Machinery is increasing, and the colonial makers have carried off all the prizes for reaping machines. Stock of superior quality continue to be imported and improved with great success.

Melbourne had been drained of labourers for the harvest-field, and they were receiving a very high wage. "Mechanics and tradesmen are still out of employment in great numbers, but it is not known to the public whether this is the result of combinations among themselves or of there being no work for them to do."

Railway making is proceeding with activity.

In a commercial aspect, the year 1859 "closed amid general gloom and despondency." It is estimated by one authority that the stock of goods at Melbourne is equal to at least a whole year's consumption, but the stock of some articles is estimated to be sufficient for all the wants of the colony for a period of ninety or a hundred weeks. Under these circumstances, the continuance of embarrassments in the commercial world cannot be wondered at. During the year ending the 1st October last the liabilities of the traders who failed in Victoria represented an aggregate of no less than 852,205l. The assets were valued at 475,066l., showing an apparent aggregate deficiency of 377,135l. The real deficiency, however, was much larger, the yield of the assets having proved, in many instances, less than expected.

From New South Wales we learn that the Assembly has assented to the principle of subsidising the proposed submarine telegraph from Australia to Java. Coal has been found in the Valley of the Grosse in large quantities. There was an increase in the revenue of last year of 8 per cent over 1858.

There has been another Polynesian massacre. This time Rubians, one of the Solomon group, has been made the scene of cannibal atrocity. The schooner Pearl, of Anitoom (formerly a well-known yacht in Sydney harbour), has been captured and burned at that island, and her crew, eight in number, besides the captain, have been killed and eaten. An attempt was made to capture the Clarence Packet, by which this news was brought. It was understood, also, that a similar attempt was to be made upon the cutter Oberon. Two men, left on shore from that vessel, had been murdered, and the plan was to decoy the master of the Oberon on shore, under the pretence that these murdered men wished to see him.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The *Unione Libérale* of Turin states that General Garibaldi is ill in the island of Caprara.

Signor Salvagnoli, the Minister of Public Worship for Tuscany, long a sufferer from asthma, is now very seriously ill—indeed, not expected to recover.

The *Kreuz Zeitung* announces as a report that Prince Alexander von Hesse, general in the Austrian army, will shortly arrive at Berlin en route for St. Petersburg.

Functionaries of State in Venice are forbidden to wear beards on their chins, or on their heads the hat *à la Cavour*, under pain of a *procès verbal* being drawn up against them and suffering the punishments prescribed for breach of the rule!

The telegraphic communication between Aden and Suakin continues suspended. The advices received intimate, however, that the Red Sea Company's line between Aden and Kurrachee is in excellent working condition.

The Belgian Chamber on Thursday adopted some severe enactments against duelling. In the event of the death of one of the parties, the survivor will be liable to imprisonment of from one to five years, and with a fine of from 2,000l. to 10,000l.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

THE VOLUNTEER DAY.

On Wednesday, the Queen held a Court in St. James's Palace, exclusively for the reception of officers of Volunteer Corps; who mustered about 2,500. Several hundreds were unable, from various causes, to attend. At twelve o'clock, they began to arrive, and were conducted to the Drawing-room, Queen Anne's-room, the Guard-chamber, Banquet-room, and other apartments of the Palace, where they were formed into companies. Her Majesty arrived soon after two o'clock, attended by the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Duke of Cambridge. In preconcerted order, each group passed through the Throne-room, headed by its senior officer, who handed to the Lord Chamberlain a list of the officers in his regiment, company, or sub-division. The Lord Chamberlain, standing on the right of the Queen, read aloud the names of each group as they were presented by the Lord Lieutenant of their county, or in his absence by the Under-Secretary of State for the War-Department. The officers then drew up in a line before the Queen, bowed, and retired. Throughout the presentation, precedence was given to each corps by reference to its number in the *Army List*. The lists of officers presented extends over six columns in the daily journals.

The weather was bad, and the cold wind and sleet thinned the usual multitude of spectators at such fêtes. Some time before the palace-doors were opened, Volunteer Officers assembled in throngs. While waiting in the ante-rooms the respective values of different cuts in costume were tested. Shaks were found inconvenient in a crowd; closely-buttoned coats uncomfortable; and plumes of feathers very much in the way. When drawn up before her Majesty, and subsequently, the uniforms of each group were subjected to animadversion.

Following the levée, a dinner was provided at St. James's Hall, under the auspices of the committees of the National Rifle Association and the Volunteer Service Club. Covers were laid for 680 persons. The band of the Grenadier Guards played during dinner. The Duke of Cambridge presided. After the toasts to the health of the Queen and Royal Family had been drunk, Lord de Grey and Ripon proposed "His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief and the Army of England." He said the Volunteer Corps were not the rivals of the Army; they were not designed to take its place, but to supplement its efforts and aid its labours. [The Commander-in-Chief had accepted the post of a Volunteer Officer and was there that night to manifest his sense of the value of the movement.]

The Duke of Cambridge proposed—"The Volunteer Service." He congratulated them on the earnest which that assembly gave of the permanence of the Volunteer movement. "To be really valuable it must of course be continuous."

Some persons, I know, object to this movement, on the ground that it is aggressive. Now I consider, on the contrary, that it is not at all of an aggressive character, but essentially a movement of defence—a movement which is called for by the altered circumstances of the times. Formerly, England was secure through her wooden walls, but now, in consequence of the inventions of modern science, we see changes coming upon us with such rapidity that we hardly know from day to day what the morrow is likely to bring forth. When we look at such inventions as the Armstrong gun and the Whitworth gun, we cannot help feeling that the greatest care is necessary to place this empire in a proper state of defence against attack from foreign powers. (Cheers.) We are not afraid, we say, of anybody. But in order not to be afraid, we must be prepared for any danger that may arise. I am sure we shall all rejoice if the services of the volunteer force are never called for; but, on the other hand, if they should be called for, I trust there is no one in this room, no one in the country, who would not be prepared to come forward and say, "Here we are; come if you dare."

Lord de Grey and Ripon, in answer, said it would depend on Volunteer corps themselves whether the movement was to be worthy of England, or whether it was to become a mere laughing-stock. Before the end of the summer, he thought the number of Volunteers would reach 100,000 men. In order to unite the scattered companies for military and administrative purposes, the Government meant to supply them with adjutants, and "I hope the result will be a triumphant answer to the carping and the feeble ridicule of some persons who have criticised the movement."

The day was closed with a ball in the grand Floral Hall adjoining Covent Garden Theatre. The first coup d'œil was the brilliant confusion into which the assembling masses entangled themselves; but the second—the wreaths, festoons, and bouquets of white and red roses, tastefully hung about the building, the handsome chandeliers, between the light pillars, the broad gilt cornice of iron at the base of the roof, the assembly of 4,000 or 5,000 ladies and gentlemen, the variety of uniforms—presented a very splendid spectacle. Dancing, of course, was somewhat impeded, but on the whole the ball was a great success.

The Queen, the Prince Consort, and the Royal family arrived at Osborne on Friday, at half-past two o'clock.

It is said to be the intention of the Prince of Wales to pay a visit to the Principality.

The Duke of Cambridge is suffering from an attack of gout. He had some preliminary symptoms on

Wednesday, and it was a great effort to attend the dinner at St. James's Hall. His Royal Highness is at present confined to his apartments in St. James's Palace.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston gave a grand banquet on Saturday evening to Prince Frederick of the Netherlands. The Prince left London yesterday on his return to Holland.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury in Downing-street.

Lord Stanley of Alderley and Lord Taunton (late the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere) are severally spoken of for the vacant office of Postmaster-General.

A circular has been issued from the War-office, ordering that no officers of volunteer corps shall wear a sash over their uniform, as it forms no part of the dress of either artillery or rifle corps in the regular army.

Lord Taunton has been elected a trustee of the British Museum in the place of Lord Macaulay.

Lord Brougham has appointed Sir David Brewster Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh.

The Earl of Elgin left town for Paris on Monday, to consult with the French Government preparatory to taking his departure for China. It is not expected that he will leave for the East before the close of this or the first week in the ensuing month.

Law and Police.

THE RELIGIOUS DISTURBANCES IN ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—At the Thames Police-court on Thursday, the summonses against the Rev. Bryan King and others for assaults were heard before Mr. Selfe. The case occupied the attention of the magistrate six hours, with the following result:—"That the Rev. Bryan King was fined 5s. on the complaint of assault on Mr. Littlejohn, son of a vestryman; that Mr. Dove, the curate, was fined 40s. for assault on Mr. Constable Herbert. The rest of the defendants were admonished and dismissed."

A ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGYMAN COMMITTED.—At the Durham assizes, on Monday, March 5th, before Mr. Justice Hill, William Kay was indicted for highway robbery. In the course of this case the Rev. John Kelly, a Roman Catholic priest, who gave a watch, part of the stolen property, to a policeman, the day after the robbery, was called for the prosecution. After the oath had been administered to him by the crier, he refused to kiss the book. He stated that he was willing to swear that he would tell the truth, and nothing but the truth, but objected to state the whole truth, the watch having come into his possession in the course of his exercise of the duties of the confessional. The judge stated that the law protected Mr. Kelly from in any way criminating himself, and that he would see him protected, but that the law would not protect a clergyman of any persuasion who chose to receive property, the produce of a felony, immediately after the offence had been committed, from disclosing from whom such property was received. The rev. gentleman still objected to take the oath, whereupon Mr. Justice Hill, after warning him of the consequences, requested the crier to repeat the form of the oath. This was done, and the rev. gentleman kissed the book. The rev. gentleman then deposed, that the day after the robbery he received the watch in question. On being asked from whom he received it, he declined to answer, stating that by doing so he would be disclosing information received in the confessional. He was again warned by the learned judge, but persisted in this course, whereupon his lordship committed him to prison for contempt of court. Father Kelly was liberated by the judge's order on Wednesday.

Miscellaneous News.

TRAIN UPSET BY WIND.—The southern French journals state that a fearful tempest had swept over the country between Narbonne and Perpignan. Such was the violence of the wind that two trains were overturned on the railway between those places.

PAUPERISM.—On the last day of January, 1860, the total number of paupers relieved in England and Wales, was 831,912 (in, 119,413; out, 712,499), being 40,097 fewer than on the corresponding day of the year preceding. The decrease prevails throughout all the eleven principal divisions, but is greatest in the north-western—where the agricultural population is proportionally smaller.

THE HIGH TIDE on Wednesday did immense damage on the banks of the Thames, the rise having been increased by the indirect effect of the north-east wind upon the waters of the North Sea; but on Thursday, when a still higher rise was expected, it was smaller, yet great damage to the shipping was done. On the western and southern coasts the same wind drove back the sea and prevented mischief.

THE WRECK OF THE ROYAL CHARTER.—The underwriters have recently sold the wreck of the Royal Charter for 1,000*l.* to the owners. It is understood that no effort will be made to recover the remainder of the gold until the fine weather has set in. The underwriters represent that the amount of gold recovered was short of 40,000*l.* of the amount on freight, and which they paid. It is computed

that the wreck contains property to the value of 120,000*l.*, exclusive of the amount recovered. More than 500*l.* has been collected for the family of the Rev. C. Hodge, who was lost in the vessel. The Bath papers mention the death, from grief, of a sister of Mr. Maule, who was lost in the Royal Charter. Operations are about to be commenced for the purpose of raising the wreck. A steam-tug and several flats have been moored near the spot, and a large number of casks and spars have been brought from Liverpool to assist in weighing up the remains of the unfortunate vessel. On Tuesday afternoon a labouring man picked up a bar of gold, of the value of 400*l.*, off the rocks. Two more bodies were picked up on Wednesday in the bay.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS ON THE BALLOT.—In consequence of a misunderstanding generally prevalent as to the days on which the question of the ballot is to be brought forward in Parliament, we are requested to state that in the House of Lords, Lord Teynham will, on Monday, 19th inst., move his resolution in favour of the ballot; and in the House of Commons Mr. Berkeley, M.P., will on Tuesday, the 20th, move for leave to bring in a bill to cause the votes of Parliamentary electors in the United Kingdom to be taken by way of ballot. —*Daily News.*

THE DRAWDRAW ON PAPER.—The London committee, of which Mr. Chater is chairman, have concluded an arrangement with the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the following effect:—1. The committee waive the right of export for re-importation. 2. The Chancellor will embody in the bill for abolishing the paper-duty, clauses securing a full drawback upon paper upon which duty may be paid between the passing of the act and the 15th of August next; and a drawback of 1*d.* per pound upon paper upon which duty shall have been paid previously to the passing of the act.

THE MANCHESTER MANUFACTURERS.—According to some of the private letters from Manchester, the profits of that city continue on an unprecedented scale, and are expected for the future, under the commercial treaty and the simplified tariff, to increase even at a still greater pace, supposing the contingency of a cotton failure to be avoided. Three individuals are each said to have recently returned 100,000*l.* to the Income-tax, and the general gains of the cotton trade at present are roughly estimated at 1,000,000*l.* sterling per month. During January and February the deposits at the Manchester Savings-bank alone were 37,000*l.* —*Times.*

THE FLOATING BATTERIES AND THE ARMSTRONG GUN.—Orders have been received at Chatham for the steam floating battery Trusty, 14, which was so severely injured by the spherical shots from the Armstrong guns during the recent experiments, to be taken into dock to be thoroughly repaired and her defects made good. Several of her plates, which are of immense thickness, were completely riddled by the shots, some of which went completely through the sides of the vessel, the wrought-iron plates being fractured wherever they were struck by a shot. In consequence of the comparatively little resistance presented by these iron-plated floating batteries, no more vessels of that class are to be constructed.

THE LATE BUILDERS' STRIKE.—The Conference of the Building Trades have addressed the working classes of the United Kingdom, intimating that in order that the whole available energies and resources of the working classes might be concentrated on a single point, namely, the defeat of the odious document, it was deemed expedient that the nine hours' movement should be for a time suspended. They then ask the question: Are you of opinion that this movement should now be revived? And if so, what steps are you prepared to take for giving effect to this opinion? and suggest whether the experience of the last six months is to be thrown away by the dissolution of the organisation; or whether by your continued support, in the shape of a small weekly subscription, it shall persevere in the prosecution of the work for which it was called into existence.

DREADFUL MURDER.—A horrible murder has been committed in Nottinghamshire. The murdered man was a cattle-jobber named Charles Spencer, who resides at Walkeringham, and was by all who knew him very greatly respected. He had been to Gainsborough market, and was known to have cash in his possession. He left Walkeringham, crossing the Trent, on his way home, at twenty minutes to eleven o'clock, p.m., accompanied by two men named Fenton, and another named Anderson. The body of the murdered man was discovered about six o'clock on Wednesday morning, in a dyke, only about forty yards from his own residence, and presented a truly horrible spectacle. A pool of blood was discovered upon the road, beside which two discharged pistols were laid. John Fenton has been taken into custody on suspicion of having committed the horrible deed. In his possession were found caps corresponding with those found upon the pistols, and also some bullets, which fitted the barrels exactly. A pair of trousers and a pair of leggings, which it is alleged the prisoner wore on Tuesday, were found freshly washed. Intelligence has been received which is likely to lead to the exploded pistols found near the body being actually traced to the prisoner's (John Fenton's) possession. He is a half-cousin to the murdered man.

JOURNEYMEN BAKERS' SHORT-TIME MOVEMENT.—On Thursday night a crowded meeting of operative bakers, accompanied by a great number of their wives, was held at Exeter Hall, to promote an agitation they have set on foot for abridging their labour

from sixteen, which is now the average time, to twelve hours a-day. Lord Shaftesbury acted as chairman. Mr. Bennett, an operative baker, read a statement of the grievances of his class, numbering from 10,000 to 12,000 men in the metropolis. They complain that, with a fixed remuneration, hours of labour never before required of any other body of operatives are exacted from them, extending often to sixteen, eighteen, and sometimes twenty hours a-day, and resulting not unfrequently in premature disease and death; that their social condition is inferior to that of any other class, and excludes them from all the ordinary means of self-culture; and that the arrangement by which they are compelled to lodge on the premises where they work condemns great numbers of them to celibacy, and the married part of them to be absent for long hours from their homes and families. As a remedy for these grievances they ask to work twelve hours a-day—namely, from four o'clock in the morning till four in the afternoon. The chairman submitted that this was not a question of argument or of rhetoric, but of fact, calculated to recommend itself to every man's understanding. Such a state of things, he said, would have been intolerable at any period of our history, but was especially so now, when it was admitted in Parliament and out of it that the mass of the working people were entitled to the greatest consideration, and to have time and opportunity for moral, religious, and intellectual culture. Lord Ebury moved a resolution condemnatory of the system under which the operative baker was compelled to work, as being alike injurious to his physical and moral condition. He stated that their average duration of life was only forty-two years, and he held that it was bad economy and great barbarity to continue a system like that which they had met to denounce. Dr. Guy bore testimony, founded on his experience, to the extreme unhealthiness of the bakers' vocation, stating, among other facts, that thirty per cent. of this class, and sometimes a higher proportion, suffered more or less from consumption. The Rev. Richard Burgess and Mr. Coningham, M.P., supported the resolution, which was put and carried with acclamation. The Rev. S. Martin and Mr. Miller, a master baker who had acted on the twelve hours' system for ten years, also spoke in favour of the object of the meeting.

THE ROYAL ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.—The 15th anniversary of this charity was held on Friday evening at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge presiding. Among others present were—Aldermen Gabriel, Philip, Abiss, Lawrence, Hon. P. S. Pierrepont, Dr. Little, Dr. Robertson, &c. The chairman, in rising to propose the toast of the evening, was received with loud cheers. He proceeded to direct attention to the necessity there existed for such a charity, and the melancholy interest attached to it from the character of the objects of the charity and the continuous care they required. The funds last year were in a very flourishing state, no less than 15,000*l.* having been raised in aid of the institution, which betokened the interest the charity possessed with the public. The erection of a new house, wherein the patients to the number of 306 were now all collected together under an uniform superintendence, had been attended by a considerable outlay, so that the institution was still in debt. The charity, however, had several peculiar sources of income. His Royal Highness drew attention to the execution of admirable drawings by one of the unfortunate inmates of the establishment, framed in a very neat and elegant manner. None, indeed, of the patients led unprofitable lives; they were almost all engaged in the manufacture of useful articles, which might be seen exhibited in the windows of the asylum. The manner in which the whole business was conducted was as satisfactory and as agreeable as could be expected in the unfortunate circumstances. It was the fact that many of our charities were not well regulated in their financial matters. He had been requested to examine the books of the charity, and, though not very conversant with such matters, it appeared to him that great care had been taken to render every thing clear and explicit. Such a charity was dependent year by year on public sympathy, and he cordially recommended it to the support of the public. Numerous loyal and social toasts, with music in the intervals, were given during the evening.

Literature.

Homœopathy, Allopathy, and Expectancy. By ROBERT M. THEOBALD, M.A., M.R.C.S. Eng. London: Leath and Ross.

HOMŒOPATHY gains in Mr. Theobald one of the most cultivated and accomplished advocates that has entered the lists in its defence. As a medical controversialist this new writer clothes energy and skilfulness with a knightly grace and courtesy, that ought to command admiration and respect from even the most determined adversary. As an expositor of a new truth, as he deems it—a heretical and ridiculed, yet growingly popular and influential truth—he would be noticeable, if only for his intellectual clearness and felicity of expression; but, when to these are added the true philosophical spirit, and minute special knowledge supported by a rich general culture—and these are his unquestionably—a claim is established to such a hearing as but few English writers on Homœopathy have been entitled to. The work that

thus impresses us is, indeed, but a very small one: but it is a full one, and a weighty one; and, while doing earnest and ample justice to its professed topics, strikingly displays powers and attainments that have a range greatly transcending them.

The work consists of letters, supposed to be addressed to a friend who knows a little about the system and seeks to know more: and the writer's attempt is simply to present the principles and facts of Homœopathy in such a form as they would naturally take in actual correspondence with a thoughtful inquirer. His first three letters are devoted to a criticism of Sir John Forbes's now well-known work, on "Nature and Art in the Cure of Disease"; and much argumentative strength and much pungent remark are bestowed on the "Apostle of Medical Scepticism" and his system of "rational expectation." Some observations in the third letter, on the relations of Nature and Art in the cure of disease, have a much deeper meaning than that belonging merely to the present medical controversy. Sir John, it is said, uses the word Nature in a limited and conventional sense, and therefore always opposes and contrasts Nature and Art:—and then occurs the following excellent passage:—

"In his sense of the word *nature*, art is outside nature; of course he would allow that in a more comprehensive sense nature includes and embraces art, but this larger and more legitimate use of the word he systematically ignores. And I think he has, by omitting to notice the very limited sense which he attaches to the word *nature*, practised a little unconscious self-deception, and persuaded himself that faith in art involves a distrust of the powers of nature, instead of being a recognition of those powers working on a larger and more comprehensive scale. Sir John has no right to assume, as he does throughout his work, that there is some antagonism between the state of mind which leads to a reliance upon art, and that which prompts to an earnest recognition of nature's powers. We who believe we have specific remedies that can cure diseases believe this because we think that nature (in the largest sense—not in Sir John Forbes's sense) has an antidote to every ill that flesh is heir to. Our faith in remedies is a most precious part of our faith in nature. We should sacrifice that faith were we to cease to believe that all the diseases to which man is exposed have been anticipated by nature, and that if we look for remedies in a diligent and trustful spirit we shall find them. We cannot separate between our trust in nature and our reliance upon art. They are part of the same faith out of which all science springs. Shakspeare taught us long ago what is the true relation between nature and art:—

'Nature is made better by no mean,
But nature makes that mean: so, o'er that art
Which, you say, adds to nature, is an art
That nature makes:—This is an art
Which does mend nature—change it rather: but
The art itself is nature.'

"I think this fundamental opposition between nature and art—this mutual jealousy between powers which ought to co-operate harmoniously—is very significant. There can be no real opposition between nature in the widest sense and that part of it which localises itself in our human constitution. There must be a most perfect correspondence between them. And since it is in this larger sphere of nature that art operates, any loss of faith in art is, in an aggravated sense, loss of faith in nature. Throughout Sir John's book this kind of scepticism is apparent. The function of art is evidently a different one to that of nature. It must be continually cautioned lest it go too far and destroy instead of save. This really is *not art at all*, because it is not nature. Nature loves it not, but is afraid of it."

The relation of Homœopathy to the past,—its alleged denial of all that has been done for medicine during two thousand years,—its novelty unsanctioned by a single tradition,—and its indulgence of erratic individualism,—these are points on which Mr. Theobald has written earnestly and well. The following passage has the marginal title, "Medical Faith dies in Old Physic, but rises again in the New."

"We are really not distinguished from allopathy at all by our denials, since we deny nothing which is not perpetually open to criticism in all schools, and has been repeatedly denied from other stand-points than our own. Sir John Forbes has shown us that the medical profession has very little faith in medicine; and there are plenty of homœopaths who, minus their homœopathy, hold a medical creed identical with that of some of the best and most sagacious doctors of the old school. So far, then, as disbelief and medical despondency go, we do not depart from, but rather express the spirit of our time, and thus even we, in a certain miserable way, have the same medical inheritance as allopathy, and are similarly related to the past. What, then, is the difference between us? Simply this—we deny under the influence of faith, while they deny under the influence of scepticism; our disbelief is reconstructive, theirs is destructive; the issue of the avowed decay of medical faith is a slow, but sure dissolution and extinction in their case; in ours it is but the transition to a higher and nobler vitality."

"It appears then that homœopathy inherits from the past all that allopathy does—all, namely, that is scientifically and experimentally ascertained to be true in the various branches of knowledge upon which the medical art is based. And it seems to me that we shall be able, in process of time, to vindicate for ourselves, and for medical science generally, a more intelligible historic basis than old physic is able to claim. For, whatever we may be, certainly allopathy has no claim to antiquity. And for this reason: it has no traditions—it does not grow—it is not organically related to the methods and

beliefs even of last century—it has no common centre around which the discoveries of each age can be collected. It has, indeed, accumulated facts, many of them most valuable, but it has not proclaimed any laws of healing, so that its facts remain isolated and only half intelligible. It has no steady progress—errors are not effectually exploded, because there is no principle of appeal. Hence, as a notorious fact, the mistakes of one age reappear, after temporary suppression, in another. Its whole character is individual—it has no historic largeness at all—it has great reputations, because great men must from time to time appear in its ranks—but it cannot make use of great and small alike by bringing all under one organisation. It never moves or acts as one compact whole—its lines of movement perpetually cross one another in the most incompatible and contradictory fashion. It is thus the very focus and type of the 'individualism' which you so justly repudiate."

"It is on this account that we cannot look to allopathy for a true and sufficient history of medicine, because it has no conception and no experience of progress, and no fixed principles by which the annals of medical effort and speculation can be estimated. History cannot be written till philosophy has prepared for it a ground to stand upon, and a point of view from which facts may be regarded. And homœopathy, by announcing the true law of cure, provides a fixed point round which all facts may gather and their value be determined. Thus it will, I believe, write medical history as no other school can write it, and will even make allopathy look more respectable by indicating the lines of fitful progress along which it has moved, but which it can never itself properly understand."

Mr. Theobald is as candid as he is resolute in his defence of Homœopathy. His twelfth letter distinctly admits that there are existing treatments of disease, by which cures are accomplished, that cannot be brought by any special pleading under the Homœopathic law: and offers very thoughtful and not unnecessary advice to the advocates of the new system, to "limit their claim for homœopathy to the assertion that it is a truth, and not insist that it is the whole, sole, and all inclusive truth in medicine," and thereby they "will make their own position sounder, less assailable by their opponents, and more free to themselves."

We shall not attempt to give any account of what Mr. Theobald has here written in exposition of the principles of Homœopathy: as his work is only a small one, and we desire to commend it to the perusal of sincere inquirers. Yet, both on the homœopathic law, and on infinitesimal doses, he has made suggestions, in the spirit of science, which are much more than a mere repetition of what has been done by others for the subject. It is scarcely possible that anything should be written on such a subject more individual in character, or more attractive in style, than the larger part of these letters.

Elizabeth: a Story which does not end in Marriage. Translated from the German of NATHUSIUS, by S. A. SMITH. Edinburgh: Grant and Son.

THIS story is all about love and marriage, even though it "does not end in marriage." It begins with the marriage of Fritz and Mary, who become eventually the grandparents of an Elizabeth, whose personal story gives its name to the book; and at whose wedding we are permitted to be spectators: and it gives us the "silver wedding" and the "golden-wedding" of the dear grandparents; to say nothing of another married pair that find their way into the circle of incident. But the wedded-life of Otto and Elizabeth is the kernel of the whole. The author has a purpose—to show that love, marriage, and family life must be rested on true religion; or disappointment and unhappiness will ensue, however great may be the conscientiousness and good intention prevailing in the characters of those domestically related. This purpose is worked out with a perpetual sense of its importance, and with considerable propriety and interest; but not without something of obtrusiveness and tediousness.

The pictures of domestic life in Germany constitute the real charm of the book. They present a state of things widely different from that existing here;—with more sentiment, and yet more formality, about it. The whole story is intensely German; and though the one human heart beats through it, both its characters and its incidents will seem strange, perhaps unnatural, to those who know no family life or social manners but their own. We doubt whether ordinary people, even in Germany, talk exactly as some of these Budmars and Kaddens and Emilys and Elizabeths do:—witness the following scene with a young bride in good society:—

"She drew her aside, embraced her warmly, and, all radiant with joy, exclaimed, 'Darling Emily, is it not exquisite to be a bride?' 'Certainly,' replied she, smiling, but in some confusion. 'I never dreamt of such happiness,' continued Elizabeth, 'but I am so very thankful to our gracious God for it.' 'And then the glad, beautiful life before one!' exclaimed she, joyously," &c., &c.

But after allowing for some extravagances, and for the stiffness of set conversations, the story is interesting, by its simple and consistent construction, its portraiture of middle-class life in Germany, and its genuinely thoughtful and pious spirit:—as a foreign religious novel, it is of higher character than most of the similar productions we are used to at home.

Gleanings.

Amongst the novel applications of photography is the production of cheap music.

The subscriptions towards the Papal tribute from Ireland is expected to swell to something like 50,000l.

A sentimental lady-visitor to Mount Vernon was found weeping bitterly over the ice-house—mistaking it for the tomb of Washington.

Messrs. Sampson Low and Son have in preparation a new work by Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, who has been spending the winter in Florence.

Messrs. A. and C. Black have in the press "Seed Time and Harvest; a Third Plea for Ragged Schools," by Dr. Guthrie.

M. Sainton and Madame Sainton-Dolby, having returned from Paris, will make their first appearance together at the Crystal Palace Concert on Saturday next.

"I understand, on the best authority, that the first cargo of rags from France, under the new system, to this country, will consist of the treaties of 1815."—A. B., in the *Herald*.

Messrs. Chapman and Hall have in the press the first two volumes of "The Political History of Italy since 1814," by Mr. Isaac Butt, LL.D., M.P. for Youghal.

It is announced as a cheering sign of the progress of civilisation among the Indians, that the Cherokee nation have a debt, and are unable to pay the interest upon it.

The disasters at sea have already this year been unusually numerous and destructive. In the month of January there were 229 wrecks, and in February 164, making a total during the present year of 393.

Messrs. Chapman and Hall have nearly ready "Lyrics and Legends of Rome, with a Prologue and Epilogue," by the author of "Clytemnestra;" and "Poems before Congress," by Mrs. E. B. Browning.

Lord Dufferin has been excavating on the banks of the Nile, and we understand that a small temple, with the columns *in situ*, and a considerable number of inscriptions, have rewarded the search.—*Builder*.

The *Times* directs attention to a combined attempt to be made by the railway interest in the present session of Parliament, to secure almost absolute power to deal with the public traffic as they may deem expedient.

The Siamese Twins are still living in Surrey Co., North Carolina, United States. At a late revival, the wife of Chang was baptized. Chang and Eng seemed to be much concerned for themselves, and requested an interest in the prayers of the minister.

At a meeting held last week, at Manchester, a resolution was passed to make a vigorous effort for raising 100,000l. for carrying out Mr. Thomas Fairbairn's great scheme for a free Art Gallery for that town.

Mr. Murray announces for the 15th inst. the publication of the "Arrest of the Five Members by Charles I.; a Chapter of English History Rewritten," the new "historical study," by Mr. John Forster, the biographer of the "Statesmen of the Commonwealth," and of Oliver Goldsmith.

Mr. Fairholt is preparing to publish with notes the curious collection of ballads left by Pepys, the diarist, and still preserved at Cambridge. It is stated that the regulation imposed by Pepys, that his papers should never be examined save in the presence of a fellow of his college, has hitherto alone prevented such a publication.

"Prince Albert de Broglie," says the *Nord*, "whose last article on the Roman question brought down a second warning on the *Correspondant*, has just received from the Pope the wax-taper which his Holiness carried in the ceremonies of Candlemas-day. Such a distinction is seldom conferred on any but sovereigns."

It is stated that Messrs. Hurst and Blackett have in the press a tale of high clerical life, founded upon facts. The author, it is said, will prove himself to be a sort of "surprised Israeli," and among the portraits anticipated are those of Whately, Neander, Messias, and several dignitaries of the English and colonial Church.

The curious Diurnal of Thomas Rugge, in the British Museum, to which public attention was long ago called by Lord Braybrooke, in his preface to Pepys' Diary, is about to be published for the first time under the editorship of Mr. Hopper, and with the assistance of Mr. James Yeowell, sub-editor of *Notes and Queries*.

Messrs. Routledge and Co. intimate that a slight delay will unavoidably occur in the publication of the concluding part of Mr. Staunton's edition of Shakespeare, which is to comprise a careful and original biography of the poet. Mr. Staunton has had placed in his possession some novel and important documents, from the custody of the Master of the Rolls, which will contribute to this life of Shakespeare some really "new facts," and which, it is said, will throw unexpected light on Shakespeare's territorial status.

ABRATED BREAD.—Dr. Hassall, in his work on the Adulteration of Food, devotes a special chapter to the falsification of bread in the metropolis. Out of twenty-four loaves, purchased indiscriminately from bakers residing in different parts of London,

he found every one adulterated with alum, the degree of adulteration corresponding with the poverty of the neighbourhood in which it had been bought. Thus it is clear that the ordinary bread is contaminated with a pernicious drug. The quantity thus taken at one time is small, it is true, but its repetition from day to day cannot fail to exercise a considerable influence upon the digestive organs, especially in young children. The aerated machine-made bread does not require the addition of alum to whiten it, the energy of the kneading apparatus transferring even the darkest spured flour into perfectly white loaves. The poor journeyman baker, no less than the public, will be the gainer by the application of machinery to the operation of mixing, inasmuch as it will at once lift a very clumsy handicraft, carried on by small masters, with insufficient means, into a manufacture of the first class, necessitating the employment of large capital.—*Once a Week*.

BIRTHS.

ALDER.—Feb. 29, at 1, Rupell-terrace, Brixton, the wife of Mr. Thomas P. Alder, of a son.

ESDELL.—March 10, the wife of Mr. A. R. Esdell, of Abbey Mills, Reading, of a daughter.

COOK.—March 11, at 3, Pembury-villas, Lower Clapton, Mrs. John Cook, jun., of a son.

PERKINS.—March 12, the wife of the Rev. Joseph Perkins, Duxford, Cambridgeshire, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COOPER—BINKS.—Feb. 25, at Bridge-street Chapel, Bolton, by the Rev. H. H. Chettle, Mr. Thomas Cooper, to Jane Kendal, eldest daughter of Mr. William Binks, of St. George's-terrace, Bolton.

WILSON—PATON.—March 2, at Brunswick-street United Presbyterian Church, Manchester, by the Rev. W. McKerrrow, D.D., Mr. Alexander Wallace Wilson, of Gorton, to Mary, daughter of the late Mr. John Paton, of Kilmarnock.

BROWN—READING.—March 6, at the Independent Chapel, Warwick, by the Rev. J. W. Peroy, Mr. James Brown, draper, to Miss Louisa Reading, both of Warwick.

SIBLEY—BERRILL.—March 6, at the Independent Chapel, Wollaston, near Wellingboro', by the Rev. Thomas Lord, of Brigstock, Mr. W. T. Sibley, of Birmingham, to Harriet Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the Rev. E. Berrill, of Wollaston.

RICHARDSON—SIBLEY.—March 6, at the Independent Chapel, Wollaston, near Wellingboro', by the Rev. Thomas Lord, of Brigstock, Mr. E. Richardson, of Birmingham, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr. Thomas Sibley, of Wollaston.

GRANGER—BISHOP.—March 7, at Norley Chapel, Plymouth, by the Rev. C. Wilson, Mr. F. W. Granger, of Torpoint, to Mary J. Bishop, second daughter of Mr. John Bishop, of Plymouth.

BAWRE—ROGERS.—March 7, at Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington, by the Rev. J. Jefferson, James, son of Mr. G. F. Bawtree, of Newington-green, to Jennet Maria, daughter of Mr. I. Rogers, of Strong's Cottage, Green-lanes.

WOOD—HARRIS.—March 8, at the Baptist Chapel, Honiton, by the Rev. W. Evans Foote, Mr. William Wood, to Miss Elizabeth Harris.

ABBAY—PULLAN.—March 13, at Windsor-lane Chapel, Knaresboro', by the Rev. Mr. Redmayne, William Richard Abbey, Esq., of Sunderland, to Miss Pullan, of Ashwell House, Bond-end, Knaresboro'.

DEATHS.

LISTER.—Oct. 28, of bronchitis, aged thirty, William Henry Lister, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Fison and Lister, wool merchants, Bradford, whilst on a voyage to Australia.

LLOYD.—Feb. 29, at his residence, Buckley, near Mold, Mr. Hugh Lloyd, aged fifty-nine years.

WICKHAM.—Feb. 29, at his residence, Kingsland-place, Kingsland, William Wickham, Esq., in his seventy-eighth year, late Secretary of the Ballot Society.

STAVELEY.—March 1, at Old Slingsford Hall, Ripon, Thomas Kitchenman Staveley, Esq., aged sixty-two, late Royal Engineers, and member of Parliament for Ripon under the first Reformed Parliament.

MELLAND.—March 4, Ann Heap, wife of Mr. Frederick Melland, of Rusholme, and daughter of the late Robert Kell-sall, Esq., of Deepshill Hall, Rochdale.

DAWSON.—March 4, of phthisis pulmonalis, James, eldest son of John and Mary Ann Dawson, and grandson of the late Rev. James Dawson, of Dudley, aged sixteen.

LOMAX.—March 5, at Mount Eldon, Heaton Norris, aged seventy-six, Susanah, wife of Mr. Lomax, editor and proprietor of the *Stockport Advertiser*.

HARRIS.—March 7, Mr. Griffith Harris, of Water-street, Carmarthen, aged eighty-three years.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

There has been some improvement in public securities arising out of the passing of the principal measures of the Budget. But on Monday there was a slight relapse in consequence of disquieting advices from the Continent. To-day the Funds are steady, but the speculative dealings are too much restricted to create activity. While the Italian question, however, is causing a heavy tone, the Funds derive some support from the encouraging position of the Government, which on every division obtains a satisfactory majority. Consols are now quoted 94½ 94½ for Money, and 94½ 94½ for Account. Special transfers have taken place in the New Threes and Reduced at 94½. Exchequer Bills are 17s. to 21s. prem. India Loan is 104½ 104½. The 5 per Cent. En-faced Paper, 99½; and the Debentures are 97½.

The available supplies of money have decreased. The value of accommodation, therefore, has advanced, and higher terms have now to be paid for loans on Government securities than for some time past.

The imports of the precious metals continue limited. The total value is about 242,000l., irrespective of the silver received from the Continent. The whole has been sent away.

In the Foreign Stock Market there is very little business, but prices are steady.

The Ocean Marine Insurance Shares are 3½ 3½ prem. The Universal, ½ ½ prem.; and Buenos Ayres Railway Company, ½ to ½ prem.

The dealings in the Railway Share Market have been limited, but in most instances prices have shown an upward tendency. Great Northern; have advanced to

109½. Great Western to 68 and 68½. London and Blackwall to 69. North Western to 97½ 97½. Midlands to 109½ 110; and South Easterns to 89½ and 89½. Caledonians declined to 93½ 93½. The Foreign and Colonial Lines are also at enhanced quotations. Lombardo-Venetian have improved to 11½. East Indian to 101½ 101½. Great Indian Peninsula to 99½ 99½. Grand Trunk of Canada to 34; and Great Western of Canada to 11½ 11½.

Joint Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares are also a shade firmer. City Bank realise 69½. London and Westminster, 55½. Ottoman Bank have declined to 19½. Australian Agricultural to 32½. Peel River Land are at 50; and Scottish Australian Investment, 125 and 126.

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th of Vic., cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, March 7, 1860.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£23,989,505	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 3,459,000
		Gold Bullion 14,514,505
		Silver Bullion —
	£23,989,505	£23,989,505

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,553,000	Government Securities .. £10,171,100
Reserve .. 3,732,497	Other Securities .. 20,953,897
Public Deposits .. 8,341,365	Notes .. 8,320,100
Other Deposits .. 12,836,611	Gold & Silver Coin 705,088
Seven Day and other Bills .. 697,482	
	£40,150,925

March 8, 1860. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, March 9, 1860.

BANKRUPTS.

HOPKINS, T. W., King's-road, Chelsea, hawker and haberdasher, March 19, April 23.

LEHMAN, J. G., Ickleton, Derbyshire, draper, March 20, April 17.

BOTHWELL, S., Dorking, Surrey, builder, March 21, April 18.

BELL, W. M., Liverpool, draper, March 19, April 16.

CHEETHAM, C. M., Worksop, Nottinghamshire, linen and woollen draper, March 31, April 28.

GOODACRE, R., Nottingham, grocer and tea dealer, March 22, April 17.

SYMONS, N., St. Pancras Ironfoundry, Cambridge-street, St. Pancras, ironfounder, March 19, April 23.

MARSON, C., senior, Leominster, Herefordshire, innkeeper, March 10, April 13.

Tuesday, March 13, 1860.

BANKRUPTS.

ELLIS, W., Poplar, ship joiner, March 24, April 25.

WEISSE, E., Piccadilly, milliner and dressmaker, March 22, April 19.

LOFTHOUSE, T., Sheffield, corn dealer, March 31, April 28.

GREEN, D., Sheffield, joiner, March 31, April 28.

STEVENSON, S., Leicester, dealer in yarns, March 27, April 17.

HASELL, J., Bristol, soap and candle manufacturer, March 26, April 23.

PARTIES ABOUT TO MAKE PRESENTS are strongly recommended to visit the show-rooms of Messrs. Parkins and Gatto, of 24 and 25, Oxford-street, London, who have displayed excellent taste in the selection of an immense stock of really useful articles (at moderate prices), especially adapted for presentation, consisting of writing and dressing-cases, bags, reticules, stationery cases, blotting-books, inkstands, despatch-boxes, desks, work-boxes, book-slides, beautiful specimens in pearl, papier-mache, and tortoiseshell, elegantly mounted articles, Bibles, Prayer-books, and Church Services; in fact, an endless variety of articles to suit every taste and pocket.

PARKINS and GATTO make no charge for plain stamping writing-paper and envelopes, and undertake to pay the carriage to any part of England, on orders over twenty shillings. Twenty thousand envelopes of any size or quality at a minute's notice. Office stationery and household papers. Institutions, colleges, and schools supplied. Price list post free. A saving of full 6s. in the pound.—Parkins and Gatto, paper and envelope makers, 24 and 25, Oxford-street.

Mr. J. W. Benson, of 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, has just published a new illustrated pamphlet on watches (free by post for tw stamps). It should be read by all who are about buying a watch, as it contains prices and important information as to what watch to buy! where to buy it! and how to use it!

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA, SWOLLEN GLANDS, HOARSENESS.—The first two diseases, from the very inclement state of the weather, are at this time particularly prevalent; the mortality from which, according to the report of the Registrar-General, is far above the average. Hoarseness, swollen glands, and sore throat, invariably accompany weather in which the thermometer indicates a variation of thirty degrees. The danger from scarlatina and diphtheria is vastly increased by the present dense and impure state of the air. From the attack of these ever-reigning diseases no precautions will preserve; but if the patient have Holloway's remedies at hand, the assault will neither be long nor disastrous, for they check both fever and ulceration.

"The high repute which Mr. Benson has obtained for the qualities of his manufacture stands second to none."—Morning Advertiser. Benson's Lady's Gold Watch, at 5 to 30 guineas.—"Exquisite artistic feeling in ornamentation, and perfection of mechanism in structure."—Morning Post. Benson's Gentleman's Gold Watch, at 6 to 50 guineas.—"All that can be desired in finish, taste, and design."—Globe. Benson's Silver Lever Watches, at 4 to 20 guineas.—"Leave nothing to be desired but the money to buy them with."—Standard. Benson's Silver Horizontal Watch, at 2 to 8 guineas.—"A good watch without paying an exorbitant price."—Daily Telegraph. Each watch warranted, and sent free to any part of England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales, on receipt of a remittance addressed to James W. Benson, at the manufactory, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London. Established 1749.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, March 12.

The foreign supplies last week were, Wheat—40 quarters from Hamburg. Barley—142 quarters from Danzig, 3,255 quarters Sweden, 2,845 quarters Denmark, 3,700 quarters Sullins. Oats—1,400 quarters from Danzig, 2,974 quarters Sweden, 440 quarters Denmark, 4,880 quarters Holland, 3,200 quarters Odessa. Tares—540 quarters. Flour—8,191 barrels from New York, 10 sacks from France. The supply of English wheat was short this morning, and the whole was taken off at very full prices, in some cases at 1s advance for the best samples. Foreign was held at extreme rates, and found a limited sale at last week's quotations. Flour met with more inquiry, and at a slight improvement in price. Barley quite as dear, and a free sale. Beans and peas without alteration. There was a rather better arrival of foreign oats, but good heavy qualities continuing scarce, realise quite as much money as

last week, inferior and light descriptions dull, but not cheaper. Linseed cakes in good demand, at last week's rates. Tares dull, and 2s to 3s per quarter cheaper. In cloverseeds very little doing, the country demand still holding off.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat	s. d.	Wheat	s. d.
Essex and Kent, Red 34 to 46		Dantzic.....	48 to 50
Do. White.....	35 52	Konigsberg, Red....	46 52
Line., Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red....	46 52
Yorkshire Red.....	—	Rostock.....	46 52
Scotch.....	—	Danish and Holstein	44 46
Rye.....	33 34	East Friesland.....	42 44
Barley, malted.....	40 45	Petersburg.....	42 48
Distilling.....	28 32	Riga and Archangel..	—
Malt (pale).....	64 68	Polish Odessa.....	42 44
Beans, mazarin.....	33 46	Marianopol.....	44 48
Peas, White.....	40 42	Taganrog.....	—
Grey.....	39 40	Egyptian.....	34 36
Maple.....	38 40	American (U.S.)....	46 50
Boilers.....	—	Barley, Pomeranian..	28 41
Tares (English new)...	42 64	Konigsberg.....	28 34
Foreign.....	—	Danish.....	25 27
Oats (English new)...	28 36	East Friesland.....	25 27
Pleur, town made, per		Egyptian.....	25 27
Sack of 380 lbs.....	42 48	Odessa.....	25 27
Linseed, English.....	50 53	Beans—	
Baltic.....	50 53	Horse.....	34 38
Black Sea.....	50 53	Pigeon.....	34 38
Hempseed.....	50 54	Egyptian.....	34 36
Canaryseed.....	50 54	Peas, White.....	40 42
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		Oats—	
112lbs. English.....	42 90	Dutch.....	18 19
German.....	—	Jahde.....	18 19
French.....	—	Danish, Yellow feed	21 23
American.....	—	Danish, Yellow feed	21 23
Linseed Cakes, 12 1/2 to 13 1/2		Swedish.....	22 25
Rape Cakes, 4 1/2 to 5 1/2		Petersburg.....	20 24
Rapeseed, 25 1/2 to 26 1/2		Flour, per bar. of 196lbs.	—
		New York.....	23 28
		Spanish, per sack..	—
		Carrayseed, per cwt.	30 35

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread, in the metropolis, are from 7d to 7 1/2d; household ditto, 5d to 6 1/2d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, LONDON, Monday, March 12.
The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 3,570 head. About an average supply of foreign stock was on offer here to-day; amongst it were 60 oxen from Spain. Sales progressed slowly, at about stationary prices. From our own grazing districts, the receipts of beasts fresh up were moderately good, and in somewhat improved condition. Most breeds moved off slowly, and in some instances, prices ruled 2d per 8lbs lower than on Monday last. The extreme value of the best Scots was 4s 10d per 8lbs. The arrivals from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, amounted to 4,400 Scots, shorthorns, and crosses; from other parts of England, 300 of various breeds; from Scotland, 240 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 228 oxen and heifers. We were again but moderately supplied with sheep. Compared with this day a fortnight, no quotable change took place in prices. On the whole, the mutton trade ruled steady. The best old Downs sold at 5s 8d per 8lbs. The shorn sheep went at from 10d to 1s per 8lbs under that quotation. Lambs, the show of which was very moderate, sold slowly, at from 6s to 6s 8d per 8lbs. We had a steady demand for calves, at very full prices; the supply was limited. The pork trade was in a sluggish state, at late currencies.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.		s. d. s. d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4 to 5 6	Pr. coarse woolled	5 0 to 5 4
Second quality	3 8 to 4 2	Prime Southdown	5 6 to 5 8
Prime large oxen	4 4 to 4 6	Lge. coarse calves	5 2 to 5 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 8 to 4 10	Prime small	5 8 to 6 0
Coarse inf. sheep	3 8 to 4 2	Large hogs	3 6 to 3 10
Second quality	4 4 to 4 10	Neatam. porkers	4 2 to 4 10

Lamb, 6s 0d to 6s 8d.
Suckling calves, 18s to 22s. Quarter-oldsters pigs, 22s to 29s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, March 12.
Our markets continue to be somewhat heavily supplied with each kind of meat. The trade generally is somewhat heavy, at the annexed quotations:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.		s. d. s. d.	
Inferior beef	2 6 to 2 10	Small pork	4 6 to 5 2
Middling ditto	3 0 to 3 4	Inf. mutton	3 2 to 3 6
Prime large do.	3 6 to 4 0	Middling ditto	3 8 to 4 2
Do. small do.	4 2 to 4 4	Prime ditto	4 4 to 4 6
Large pork	3 6 to 4 2	Veal	4 8 to 5 4

Lamb, 6s 0d to 6s 8d.
POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, March 12.
—Conspicuous, the arrivals of potatoes since Monday last, have been limited; but by rail they have steadily increased. The imports have not exceeded 25 bags from Hamburg. On the whole, the trade rules steady.

PRODUCE MARKET, MINCEING-LANE, March 13.

TEA.—The market continues very dull, and prices are unaltered.

SUGAR.—The demand for the finer qualities has been active, and slightly advanced rates have been realised. In the refined market a fair business has been transacted for home consumption at full rates.

COFFEE.—No sales of importance have been effected, but quotations generally are firmer.

RICE.—The dealings have been moderately active, and full prices are current for all qualities.

BALTIMORE.—There has been a brisk inquiry, owing to an impression that an export duty of 6s per cwt will shortly be imposed in India, and prices have advanced to 1s 6d per cwt.

PROVISIONS, Monday, March 12.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 731 firkins of butter, and 2,749 bales of bacon, and from foreign ports 14,435 casks of butter, and 704 bales and 1,095 boxes of bacon. In the Irish butter market there was a limited amount of business transacted last week; but the stock is now reduced by shipments to the north to under 8,000 firkins, all of which will be wanted. Prices are unchanged. The duty was taken off foreign butter last week, and a large business was transacted; best Dutch sold at a decline of 4s to 5s, and other sorts at 2s to 3s reduction. In the bacon market there was a better feeling, more business done, and prices were the turn in favour of the seller.

COALS, Monday, March 12.—A heavy market, in anticipation of some arrivals for next day. Hough Hall, 17s 6d; Thorncliffe, 17s 6d; Trimdon Hartlepool, 19s 3d; South Hartlepool, 18s 9d; Bryon's, 18s 6d; Wylam, 18s 6d; Tanfield, 13s; Hartley's, 15s; Hetton's and Haswell's sold to the trade at 20s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 29; left from last day, 3—Total, 32.

OILS, Monday, March 12.—Linseed oil is in fair request at 27s 6d per cwt on the spot. Rape is the turn dearest, with a good demand. In palm and coconut very little is doing. Olive still moves off freely, at 62s to 63s for Gallipoli. Other oils are very firm in price; but the value of turpentine has a dropping tendency.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, March 10.—There is rather more inquiry for flax, and late rates are well supported. Baltic hemp sells steadily at 24s per ton for Petersburg clean. Manila qualities maintain late quotations. Jute and coir goods are less active, but not cheaper.

HOPS, Monday, March 12.—Our market continues in the same inactive condition as of late; but from the firmness evinced by the holders of stock, and the few samples pushed for sale, prices have been only slightly affected.

SEEDS, Monday, March 12.—The weather continuing rough and wintry has caused an almost total cessation of the demand for seeds of all descriptions. Red seed has been offered on lower terms, but without inducing business. White seed maintains its value, but without transactions. Trefoil is quiet, and easier in value. Canaryseed was without change to-day.

WOOL, Monday, March 12.—We have to report an improved demand for most long wools, at prices fully equal to last week, but at which prices sellers are not coming forward readily. Short wool is dull in sale, owing to the high rates demanded for it; nevertheless, the quotations rule steady. The supply on offer and in the hands of the manufacturers is very limited. The export inquiry is heavy.

TALLOW, Monday, March 12.—The business doing in our market is only moderate; nevertheless, prices are fairly supported. To-day, P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 59s 9d per cwt. Rough fat, 5s 2d per 8lbs.

	PARTICULARS.				
	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.
Stock	Casks. 22653	Casks. 14993	Casks. 17562	Casks. 18371	Casks. 81875
	55s 6d	60s 0d	55s 0d	52s 0d	59s 9d
Price of Yellow Candle	to 0s 0d	to 0s 0d	to 0s 0d	to 0s 0d	to 0s 0d
Delivery last Week	962	334	1256	1173	1020
Ditto from the 1st of June	88530	90217	90281	84738	67918
Arrived last Week	49	1394	998	163	1275
Ditto from the 1st of June	64641	88130	94731	91477	90712
Price of Town Tallow	53s 6d	52s 0d	56s 6d	58s 6d	60s 3d

Advertisements.

LEAP-YEAR.—PIESSE and LUBIN'S new BOUQUET for the Season 1860.

"In leap-year they have power to choose,
The men no charter to refuse"—Chaucer.
This and a thousand others for choice, in bottles 2s. 6d. each.
2, NEW BOND-STREET, W. [Copyright!]

DENMAN, INTRODUCER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN

PORT, SHERRY, &c. Finest importations, 20s. per dozen, BOTTLES INCLUDED, an advantage greatly appreciated by the public and a constantly increasing connexion, saving the great annoyance of returning them.

Two Pint Samples for Twenty-four Stamps.
WINE in CASK forwarded free to any Railway Station in England.

EXCELSIOR BRANDY.

Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon, or 30s. per dozen
TERMS—CASH.
Country Orders must contain a remittance. Crossed cheques Bank of London." Price-lists forwarded on application.
JAMES L. DENMAN, 65, Fenchurch-street (corner of Railway-place), London.

COGNAC, —SCHIEDAM, —BORDEAUX, —

French Brandy, pale or brown, Martell's and other first Shippers, 24s. per gallon; ditto in Cases (bottled in France), 54s. per dozen; very old and rare, 30s. per gallon, 63s. per dozen case. We refrain from giving lower quotations, knowing that no genuine old Foreign Brandy can be obtained for less than the above. Holland's, the finest imported from Rotterdam, 14s. per gallon, or in original cases and bottles, 32s. per dozen. St. Julien Claret, 24s. per dozen. "Cadix" a Pure Pale Sherry, 34s. per dozen. Our revised Prices Current forwarded on application.—Firms Cash. HENRY BRETT and Co., Importers, Holborn Bars, E.C.

IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.—Money
Lent on Personal Security, Leases, &c.

SUMS from 10l. to 300l. ADVANCED two or three days after application, for two years, one year, or six months (repayable by weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments); and good Bills Discounted. Charges moderate, and strict confidence observed.

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Improper mastication and the evils attendant thereon may be avoided by wearing Artificial Teeth properly constructed and of pure materials.

Messrs. GABRIEL, the old-established Dentists' Treatise on the Loss and best means of Restoring the Teeth, explains their system of supplying Artificial Masticators with Vulcanised Gum-coloured India-rubber as a base; no metal whatsoever is used—springs and wires are entirely dispensed with, while a greatly increased amount of suction is obtained, together with the best materials and first-class workmanship, at less than half the ordinary cost.

"Gabriel's Treatise is of importance to all requiring the dentist's aid, and emanating from such a source, it may be confidently relied on."—United Service Gazette.

"Thousands requiring artificial teeth are deterred from consulting a dentist, fearing the anticipated cost, or dread of failure—to all such we say peruse 'Gabriel's Treatise.'"—Civil Service Gazette.

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